DRINKING WATER BOARD
PACKET

MAY 11, 2007

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

AGENDA

FOR THE

DRINKING WATER BOARD MEETING

OF

MAY 11, 2007

State of Utah

Department of Environmental Quality

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D.
Executive Director

DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER
Kenneth H. Bousfield, P.E.
Director

DRINKING WATER BOARD MEETING

May 11, 2007
1:00 p.m.
Place: DEQ's Offices
168 North 1950 West, Room 101
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116
Ken Bousfield's Cell Phone #: (80l) 674-2557

1. Call to Order – Chairman Erickson

2. Roll Call – Ken Bousfield

3. Introductions – Chairman Erickson

4. Approval of Minutes – March 2, 2007
   a) Approve Board Meeting Minutes
   b) Review Itinerary Minutes

5. Public Hearing on "Body Politic"

6. SRF/Conservation Committee Report – Vice Chairman Myron Bateman
   1) Status Report – Ken Wilde
      a) Project Priority List
      b) Loan Origination Fee and Reauthorization of Loans that have not been Closed
   2) State SRF Applications
      a) Enoch City Planning Loan (Julie)
      b) Circleville (Mike G.)
      c) Escalante Update (Karin)
   3) Federal SRF Applications
      a) Croydon Deauthorization (Ken W.)
      b) Portage Additional Funding (Julie)
      c) Erda Acres Special Service District (Karin)

7. Authorization to Proceed with Rule Adoption – 2/LT2/LT1 – Patti Fauver

8. Mountain View Community Park Penalty Revision – Patti Fauver

9. Status on the Antimony Variance for the Town of Alta – Ken Bousfield

10. Chairman's Report – Chairman Erickson

11. Directors Report
    a) Division Reorganization – insert
    b) Division Planning Retreat
    c) Division Budget Issues – insert
    d) Division's Work with Lorna Rosenstein Regarding Fluoride – insert
    e) 2007 DWSRF Capitalization Grant Application and Intended Use Plan - insert

12. News Articles

13. Letters

14. Next Board Meeting:
    Date: July 13, 2007
    Tour: Central Iron County Regional Tour
    Tour: 9:00 a.m. - Board Meeting: 1:00 p.m.
    Address to Meet for the Tour and Board Meeting:
    Heritage Center
    Festival Hall
    105 North 100 East
    Cedar City, Utah 84720
    Contact: Nyman
    Phone: (435) 865-2896
    Time: 9:00 a.m.
    Lunch: Cedar Creek Restaurant
    86 South Main Street
    Cedar City, Utah 84720
    Phone: (435) 586-6311
    Reservations Under: Division of Drinking Water

15. Other

16. Adjourn

In compliance with the American Disabilities Act, individuals with special needs (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) should contact Jennifer Burge, Office of Human Resources at: (801) 536-4413, TDD (801) 536-4424, at least five working days prior to the scheduled meeting.

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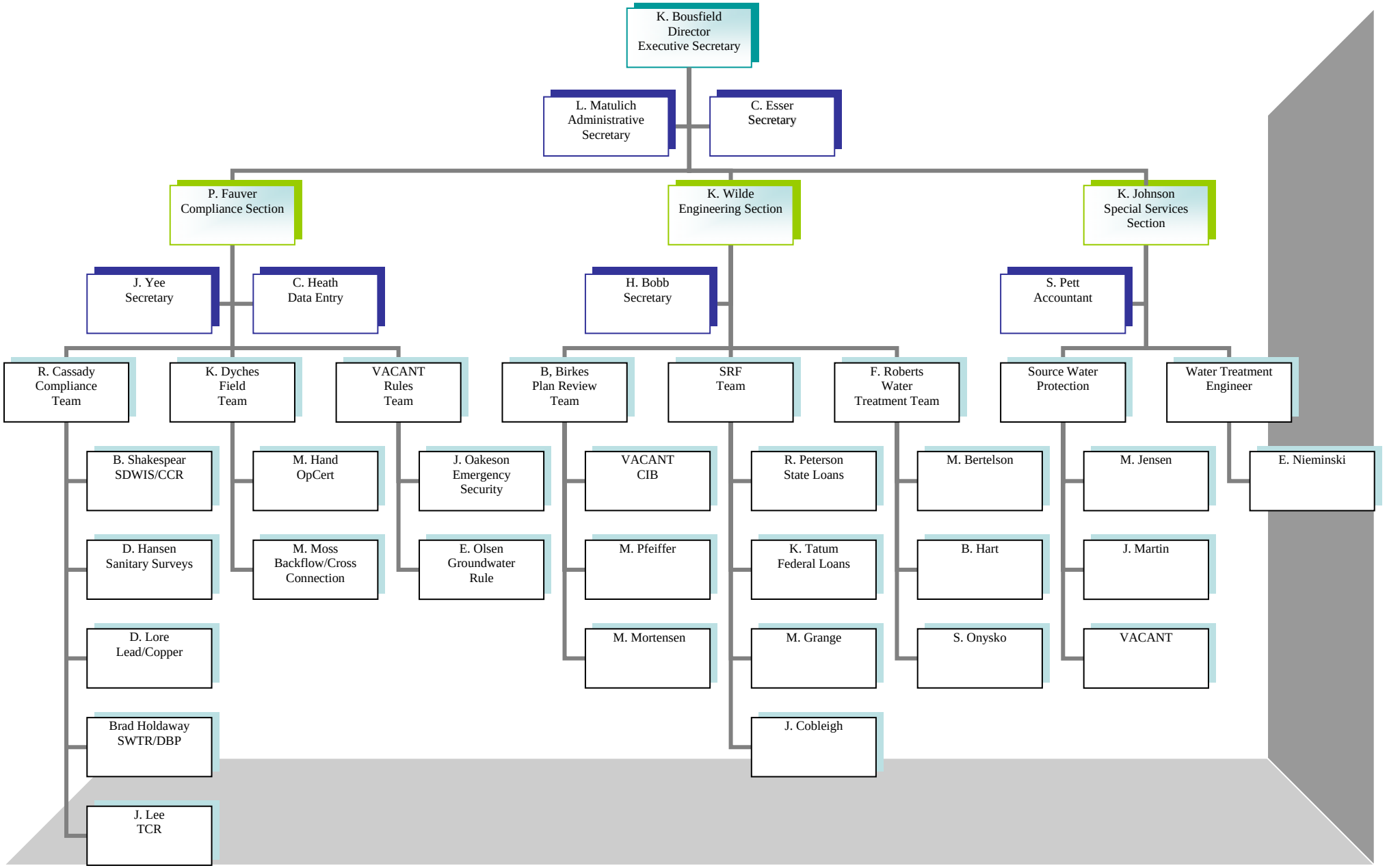
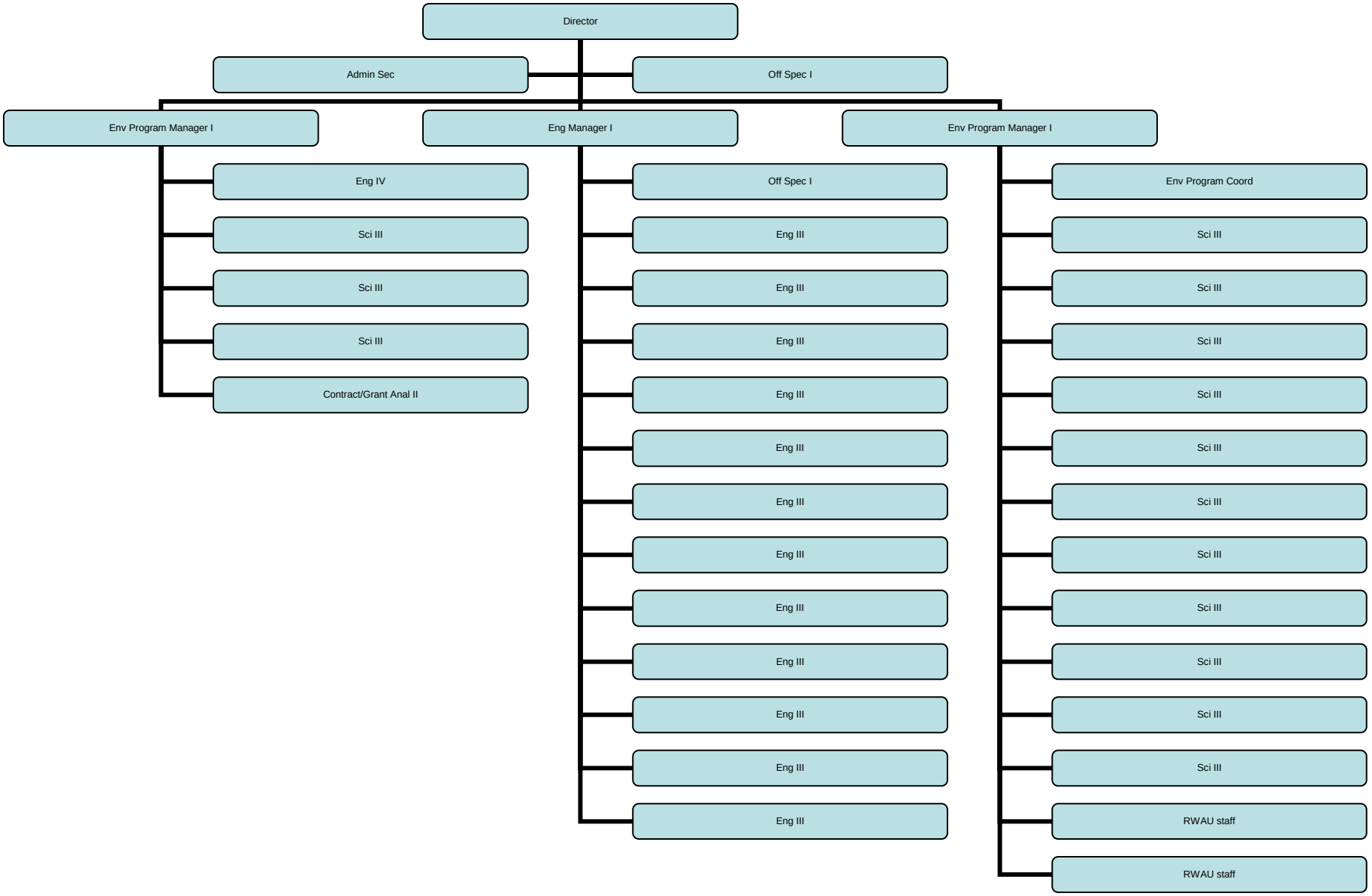
a) DIVISION REORGANIZATION

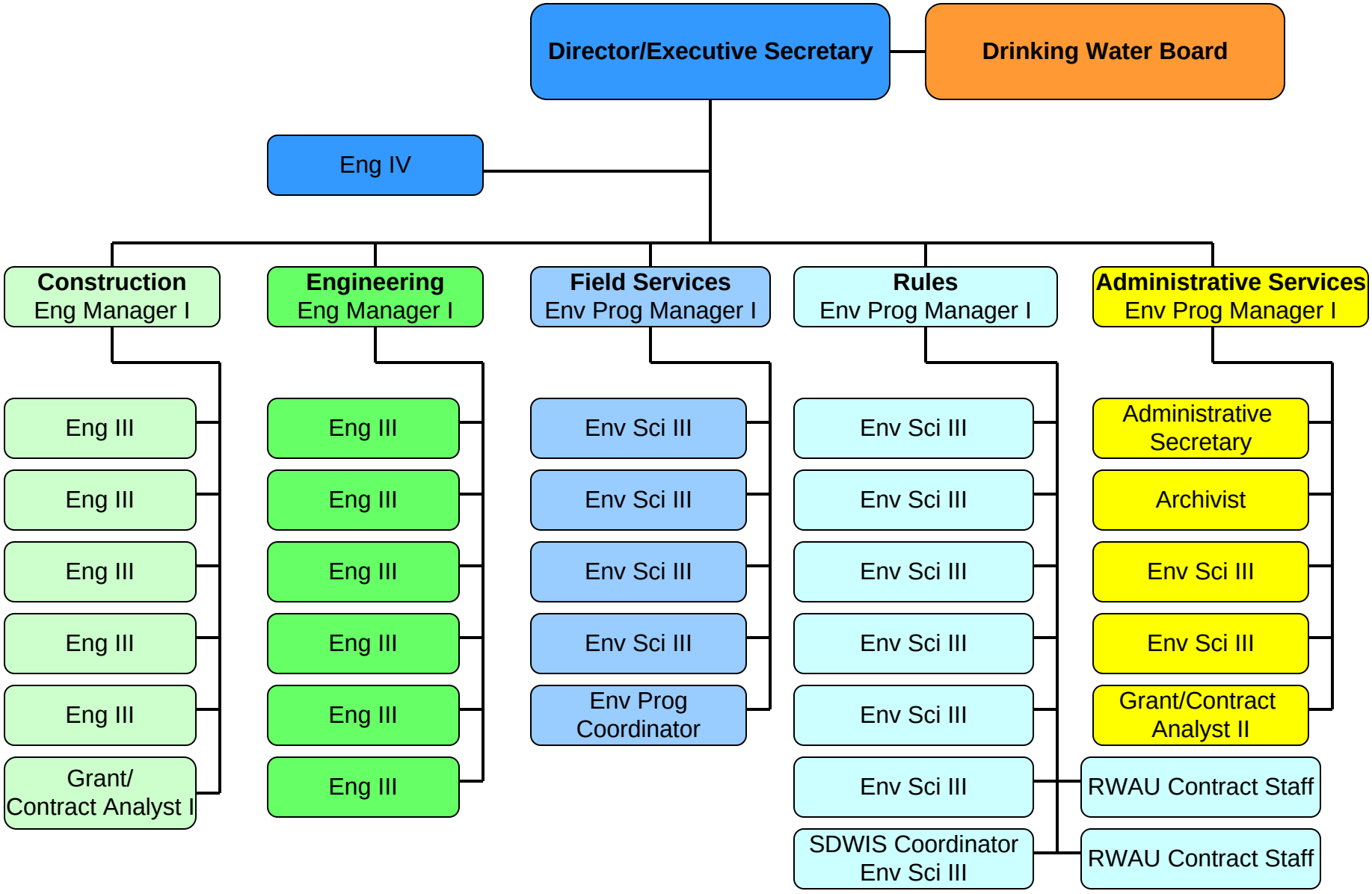
DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER
DECEMBER 2006



“Current” Division of Drinking Water



Division of Drinking Water Organization Chart



AGENDA 11

c) DIVISION BUDGET ISSUES

DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER FUNDING ISSUE

Issue:

The Division of Drinking Water's budget is in jeopardy.

Background:

During the past three years, the Legislature passed employee compensation packages that resulted in increases to all employees' salaries and benefits, but funded only the portion of those increases that came from the State's general fund. About 35% for the Division's budget comes from state general funds. The remaining 65% of the Division's budget comes from federal funds. Also during this time, the Division has had to implemented new federal rules without any increase in staffing levels or federal funding.

To fund the increase costs, the Division has relied on increases in fees for the Operator Certification program, and the Backflow Prevention program. The Division has also tapped the federally funded State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) monies. EPA allows states to use up to 31% of the SRF monies for specific state program administration uses. The money diverted from this source is identified as "set aside" money and the Division is currently using about $^{2}/_{3}^{rds}$ of what EPA allows. When the Division uses set aside money it reduces the amount of money available to loan to utilities for needed drinking water projects within the state.

Recommendation:

To fill the current short fall in the Division's budget, the Division recommends the following sources of funding in priority order:

1. Seek funding from the Department of Work Force Services for training provided by the Division that is career related (Operator Certification and Backflow Technician Certification). This source is currently being investigated and will be pursued if it is determined to be available.

2. Increase the use of federal SRF set aside monies.

3. Seek legislative approval to use a "set aside" portion of the State loan monies for program needs.

4. Seek legislative approval to assess fees from water utilities, based on source capacity or numbers of connections.

5. Seek a legislative approval of a general fund appropriation.

Contact Information:

Kenneth H. Bousfield, Director
Division of Drinking Water
Direct Telephone: (801) 536-4207
E-mail: kbousfield@utah.gov

AGENDA 11

d) DIVISION'S WORK WITH LORNA ROSENSTEIN REGARDING FLUORIDE

Fluoride Presentation
March 21, 2007

Ken Bousfield started the meeting by going over an agenda of items for staff to keep in mind during the presentation. Staff was to confine their discussions to items the Division can deal with. A list of these items was provided by Ken Bousfield.

Staff was charged with creating a list of issues to determine if follow up meetings are required. The list consisted of these items:

- The concern of spills.
- The concern of the chemical quality.
- Knowledge of treatment by doctor's and hospitals.
- Source protection issues i.e., containment.
- Cautionary public notices for levels above 2 ppm (automatic notices?).

Staff was charged with creating a list of partners in the industry to involve. The list consisted of these organizations:

- Individual water systems
- Local Health departments
- State Health Department
- OSHA

Staff was charged with making plans to address these issues. Those plans would involve some of the following:

- Develop a questionnaire to send to the water system as a guide to help maintain safety issues and test their knowledge, asking about chemicals used in their system, analysis from their supplier on the chemicals used, documenting safety training, etc. (Letter from Director?).
- Control system design through the process of Plan review. Verify proper containment of chemicals.
- Verify knowledge and training of certified operators through the Operator Certification Exam. (Kim Dyches recommended staff read the AWWA Book of Standards, Chapter 9 for information on the use of Fluoridation)

Staff was charged with making assignments for staff help resolve some of the issues listed. The assignments were made as follows:

- Kim Dyches – Operator Safety – Approach AWWA and Rural Water about getting involved in safety issues. (Do water systems document training if water operator is not certified?).
- Frank Roberts – Outline of Operator Training. Contact Central Utah Valley WCD and base off their training methods.
- Heather – Create a conceptual questionnaire with input from staff.

Lorna Rosenstein offered to forward a list of questions she has compiled for the water systems to ask their chemical suppliers.

Staff present at presentation:

Kim Dyches
Michael Mortensen
Bob Hart
Mark Jensen
Mark Bertelson
Heather Bobb
Kate Johnson
Bill Birkes
Don Lore
Frank Roberts

AGENDA 11

e) 2007 DWSRF CAPITALIZATION GRANT APPLICATION AND INTENDED USE PLAN

STATE OF UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER

2007 DWSRF
CAPITALIZATION GRANT APPLICATION
and
INTENDED USE PLAN

STATE OF UTAH
DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

2007 DWSRF INTENDED USE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section A: Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)

A-1 Plan Introduction:

The national Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program established by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Amendments of 1996, authorizes the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to award capitalization grants to States, which in turn may provide low-cost loans and other types of assistance to eligible public water systems to finance the costs of infrastructure projects needed to achieve or maintain compliance with SDWA requirements. States are also authorized to set-aside a portion of their capitalization grants to fund a range of activities including administration, technical assistance, source water protection, capacity development, and operator certification.

The Utah Legislature enacted Utah Code Annotated (UCA) 19-4-101 et seq. establishing the Utah Safe Drinking Water Board. UCA 19-4-104 empowers the Board with rule making authority to meet the requirements of federal law governing drinking water. UCA 19-1-105 establishes the Division of Drinking Water which is tasked with the responsibility to administer UCA 19-4-101 et seq. The Utah Drinking Water Board has promulgated rules for making loans incorporating the requirements of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act at Utah Administrative Code R309.705. Additionally, the Board is authorized by UCA 19-4-104(1)(a)(v) and 19-4-104(2) to promulgate rules for certification of operations and governing capacity development in compliance with Section 1419 and 1420 of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

The Utah Drinking Water Board, an eleven-member board appointed by the Governor, develops policies and procedures for program implementation and authorizes loans under the DWSRF. The Utah Department of Environmental Quality through the Division of Drinking Water directly administers the DWSRF program. The Division of Drinking Water's primary DWSRF activities include administering loans and managing and coordinating the fund.

The Division receives assistance and support from the Department of Environment Quality's Office of Support Services, the State Division of Finance, the State Attorney General's Office and the State Treasurer's Office. The salaries and benefits of the employees, as well as indirect costs based on direct salary costs, are charged to the DWSRF program. Employees charging time to the DWSRF program are covered by the State of Utah personnel benefits plan. The DWSRF program is charged a loan administration fee by the Division of Finance.

The DWSRF program requires the States to deposit to the loan fund an amount equal to at least 20 percent of the capitalization grant. Loan repayments made by assistance recipients return to the loan fund and provide a continuing source of financing. The first year of funding by USEPA was federal fiscal year 1997. The following table summarizes awards received by the Division of Drinking Water, the allocation between loan and set-aside funds and the required state 20% match.

Table 1
Summary of DWSRF Grants
June 30 2006

Federal Fiscal Year	Award Date	Award Allocation Total Amount	%	Loan Fund Amount	%	Set-Aside Funds Amount	%	State 20% Match
1997	February 9, 1998	$ 12,558,800	100%	$ 9,755,575	77.7%	$ 2,803,225	22.3%	$ 2,511,760
1998	September 20, 1999	7,121,300	100%	5,633,100	79.1%	1,488,200	20.9%	1,424,260
1999	May 1, 2000	7,463,800	100%	6,019,720	80.7%	1,444,080	19.3%	1,492,760
2000	August 21, 2000	7,757,000	100%	6,515,880	84.0%	1,241,120	16.0%	1,551,400
2001	September 7, 2001	7,789,100	100%	6,542,844	84.0%	1,246,256	16.0%	1,557,820
2002	July 20, 2002	8,052,500	100%	6,384,100	79.3%	1,668,400	20.7%	1,610,500
2003	August 11, 2003	8,004,100	100%	6,473,444	80.9%	1,530,656	19.1%	1,600,820
2004	July 6, 2004	8,303,100	100%	6,724,604	81.0%	1,578,496	19.0%	1,660,620
2005	June 16, 2005	8,285,500	100%	6,709,820	81.0%	1,575,680	19.0%	1,657,100
2006	June 29, 2006	8,228,900	100%	6,583,120	80.0%	1,645,780	20.0%	1,645,780
	Total	$ 83,564,100	100%	$ 67,342,207	80.6%	$ 16,221,893	19.4%	$ 16,712,820
2007	Application	8,229,400	100%	6,562,696	79.7%	1,666,704	20.3%	1,645,880

The allotment between States is based on state needs surveys. The amount awarded to the State of Utah in each of the fund years was one percent, the minimum allocation. Utah has requested and been awarded its annual allocation through federal fiscal year 2007.

The State Auditor, in compliance with the provisions of the Single Audit Act, audits the Drinking Water DWSRF accounts. Drinking Water accounts are also subject to review and audit by USEPA, the Office of the Inspector General. DWSRF Funds are included in Utah's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), which uses the modified accrual bases of accounting. Because Funds are combined the Drinking Water assets, liabilities, and net assets are not identifiable in Utah's CAFR.

The State is required to submit an annual Intended Use Plan (IUP) to EPA as long as the Fund or set-aside accounts remain in operation.

The Division of Drinking Water under the direction of the Drinking Water Board (Board) administers the loan and set-aside programs.

DWSRF program and procedures that are not expected to change annually are described in the Operating Agreement.

A-2 Loan Program:

The loan program funds low-cost loans and other types of assistance to publicly owned and privately owned community water systems and non-profit non-transient water systems to finance the costs of infrastructure projects. States are responsible for developing a priority system that identifies how projects will be ranked for funding and a list of projects, in priority order, that are eligible for funding. A description of the criteria and the method used for distribution of loan funds is outlined in Utah Administrative Code R309-705

Loans Program Eligibility Requirements

1. Repayment must begin no later than one year after completion of the project.
2. Loan repayment must be complete no later than 20 years after the completion of the project. A disadvantaged community loan may have up to 30 years as long as the period of the loan does not exceed the expected design life of the project.
3. A minimum of 15% of all dollars credited to the Loan Fund must provide loans to small systems, those that serve fewer than 10,000 persons.
4. Up to 30% of federal grants can be used for principal forgiveness for communities meeting the State's "Disadvantage" criteria. The Drinking Water Board has defined Disadvantaged Communities as those communities located in an area which has a median adjusted gross income which is less than or equal to 80% of the State's median adjusted gross income, as determined by the Utah State Tax Commission from federal individual income tax returns excluding zero exemption returns or where the established annual cost of drinking water service to the average residential user exceeds 1.75% of the median adjusted gross income.

Interest and Fees

1. Federal rules section 1452 allows the state to assess interest and/or fees. Fees are calculated and paid in the same manner as interest. Fees have fewer restrictions than interest. The Utah Drinking Water Board has authorized by Rule the establishment of a fund (or account) into which the proceeds of annual fees be placed.
2. Interest payments are deposited to the same loan fund as principal payments and have the same restrictions.
3. Hardship fees are deposited to a separate fund authorized for providing grants to water systems through the State SRF loan program.
4. The Drinking Water Board established a rule for the collection of a Technical Assistance fee. These funds will be used to finance technical assistance for eligible water systems. This fee is part of the "effective rate" calculated using Table 2, R309-705-6**.** Utah Rule R309-705-4 defines an SRF Technical Assistance Fund which means a fund (or account) that will be established for the express purpose of providing "Technical Assistance" to eligible drinking water systems. These fees are deposited into the hardship fee fund and will be tracked separately.

The Technical Assistance Fund will provide low interest loans for technical assistance, and any other eligible purpose as defined by Section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Amendments of 1996, to water systems that are eligible for Federal SRF loans. Repayment of these loans may be waived in whole or in part (grant funds) by the Board whether or not the borrower is disadvantaged. The

proceeds of the fund will be used as defined above or as modified by the Board in compliance with Section 1452 of the SDWA Amendments of 1996.

5. Origination Fee: Authority was amended by the Utah State Legislature to establish an origination fee for a loan to fund the administration of the Drinking Water SRF programs with HB99. It is being reviewed by the Drinking Water Board on May 11, 2007. It is anticipated to do the following:

a. The Board will set/change the amount of the fee from time to time as they determine meets the needs of the program. (The current request is 0.50% of the principle amount of the loan at the time of closing.)

b. The origination fee amount will be assessed to the loan recipient as a percentage of the Principal Balance of the loan. It will be paid from the loan proceeds at closing as a one-time fee.

c. All proceeds will be deposited into the "DW Origination Fee Fund" as created in Section 73-10c-5.

d. Since fees will be deposited into an account outside of the Fund, they will only be used for program administration or other purposes for which capitalization grants can be awarded under section 1452.

e. Fees will begin being assessed after a 30-day public comment period. Anticipated date of June 11, 2007.

State fund Drinking Water Loan Program:

The Division of Drinking Water also operates a State funded Drinking Water Assistance Program. The State program provides Utah the flexibility to put together loan packages without the restrictions that accompany the DWSRF program. The Federal DWSRF required State 20% match is generated from the State loan program.

A-3 Set-Asides:

In addition to loan assistance to eligible public water systems, the DWSRF program also emphasizes the prevention of drinking water contamination by allowing States to reserve a portion of their grant to fund activities that encourage enhanced water system management and source water protection. The funded activities are referred to as set-aside funds. Set-aside activities include:

1) Up to four percent of the allotment to administer the Drinking Water SRF and provide technical assistance to public water systems;
2) Up to ten percent of its allotment for state program management activities, including administration of the State public water system supervision program, administration of the source water protection program, development and implementation of the capacity development and operator certification programs. This set-aside requires a dollar-for-dollar match. The match is provided from State general funds.
3) Up to two percent of its allotment to provide technical assistance to small public water systems;
4) Up to 15 percent of its capitalization grants to assist in the development and implementation of local drinking water protection initiatives, including capacity development, wellhead protection and other State programs.

SECTION B - INTENDED USE PLAN:

B-1 Summary, Financial Status and Goals:

The State has agreed to prepare an Intended Use Plan (IUP) as long as the loan fund and/or set-aside funds remain in operation describing how the State will use all funds available to the capitalization grant, including funds that will be allocated to the set-asides. Specifically, the IUP describes how we plan to use available funds. Funds are received from the Federal capitalization grants, the State match, loan repayments including interest and fee payments, and investment earnings.

The State is applying for the 2007 Drinking Water SRF appropriation in the amount of $8,229,400. $6,562,696 will be added to the loan fund and $1,666,704 to the set-aside program. The federally mandated 20% state match of $1,645,880 will be funded from the Drinking Water State loan program.

The Intended Use Plan (IUP) includes:

1) Specifics on how the Board proposes to use the FFY 2007 DWSRF appropriation;
2) A description of the goals of the DWSRF program;
3) A list of projects eligible to receive DWSRF funding, which identifies those serving less than 10,000 people;
4) Cost estimates for listed projects;
5) An estimate of funds anticipated to be available for financial assistance;
6) Criteria for selecting projects to receive financial assistance;
7) Criteria for determining which communities qualify for hardship status;
8) The project scoring and ranking system;
9) Projects authorized for funding and those anticipated to be closed in FFY2007.

Short and Long-Term DWSRF Goals:

The DWSRF program will help ensure Utah's drinking water supplies remain safe and affordable, and drinking water systems are properly operated and maintained. The objectives of the DWSRF program include ensuring the public health, achieving compliance with SDWA, and assisting systems to provide affordable drinking water.

Short Goals:

Loan Program:

- To assist prospective borrowers during facility planning and preparation of their project funding applications, make funding recommendation to the Drinking Water Board, and assist during project construction.
- Improve the State Revolving Loan Fund Program to include: Allow for funding of automated meters, require all applicants to complete a vulnerability assessment and emergency response plan, make adjustments to the interest rate point system, make applications available online.

Set-Aside:

1) Complete, maintain and enhance the SDWIS database system.
2) Continue to enhance the PWSS program.
3) Continue to expand the Operator Certification program
4) Improve surface water source protection compliance. Contact all water systems not in compliance with the surface and ground water source protection rules. Including site or office visits, additional GIS work or phone consultations
5) Evaluate EPA's Groundwater Rule and formulate an implementation plan
6) Continue funding for DWSRF administrative needs
7) Educate and support water suppliers with their water protection (counter-terrorism) efforts
8) Coordinate with RWAU and AWWA-IMS in providing assistance to PWS's to enable them to prepare vulnerability assessments and emergency response plans

Long-Term Goals for the Loan Funds and the Set-Aside Funds

1) To provide a permanent source of funding which can be used in combination with financing from a community's own resources and other funding sources to assist in financing needed drinking water projects. The Federal SRF funds, the State 20% match, loan repayments, interest payments and earnings on the invested cash balance provide funding.
2) To protect public health
3) To help public water suppliers achieve and maintain compliance with Federal and State drinking water standards.
4) To enhance long-term water system viability
5) To assist public water suppliers to improve drinking water quality and dependability by providing SRF loans to applicants in greatest need.
6) Educate and support water suppliers with their water protection (counter-terrorism) efforts. Rural Water Association of Utah (RWAU) will augment the State's efforts to provide widespread training and provide as much onsite, one-on-one technical assistance as possible to water systems
7) Establish state rules to require all future public water systems to be public entities of the State Of Utah

Transfer and Cross-Collateralization of Funds between the DWSRF and CWSRF:

Section 302 of the SDWA authorizes the transfer up to 33 percent of the amount of a fiscal year's DWSRF program capitalization grant to the CWSRF program or an equivalent amount from the CWSRF program to the DWSRF program. There has been no transfer of funds and no transfers are anticipated.

Withholding of Funds:

EPA will withhold funds under the following provisions:

1. Unless the State has authority to ensure all new community water systems and new nontransient, noncommunity water systems commencing operation after October 1, 1999, demonstrate technical, managerial, and financial capacity with respect to each drinking water regulation in effect. Utah Code Annotated 19-4-104 empowers the Drinking Water with rule making authority to meet the requirements of Federal law governing drinking water.
2. The State is not developing and implementing a strategy to assist public water systems in acquiring and maintaining technical, managerial, and financial capacity.
3. The State has not adopted and is not implementing a program for certifying operators of community and nontransient, noncommunity public water systems. EPA's has approval of the State's operator certification program.

Public Review of the IUP:

The IUP was published on the Drinking Water web site, www.drinking water.utah.gov. Notice of the posting and request for public comment was included on the Drinking Water Board May meeting agenda, which is mailed to approximately 300 interested individuals and agencies asking for review and comments. In addition, copies were mailed to the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, the Utah League of Cities and Towns, and the Rural Water Association of Utah. Comment may be made in writing addressed to the Drinking Water Board at 150 North 1950 West, PO Box 144830, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4830 or in person at a regular scheduled Board meeting. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is May 11, 2007. No comments are anticipated to be received.

Financial status:

Initial capitalization for the Utah DWSRF program was provided from the 1997 Federal Capitalization Grant and state matching dollars. For the ten years, 1997 through 2007, DWSRF capitalization grants totaled $83,564,100. $67,342,207 was added to the loan program and $16,221,893 was used in the set-aside programs. The State 20% match for the ten-year period of $16,712,820 was added to the loan program. Through March 31, 2007 the Board has authorized fifty-eight projects totaling $93,210,184. Fifty-one projects totaling $79,062,184 have been closed (committed) and seven projects totaling $14,148,000 have been authorized by the Board but have not been closed (not committed). Revenue, disbursements and balances are shown in the financial statements. The DWSRF finance flow chart is included at Part C.

We are applying for $8,229,400 the amount allocated to the State of Utah for FFY 2007, plus a small amount from FY2006 which was not applied for previously. $6,562,696 will be provided to the loan fund and $1,666,654 to set-asides. The state 20% match of $1,645,880 will be added to the loan fund.

Table 2 Capitalization Grant and State Match Requests FFY 2007		
	Amount	Percentage
Loan Fund	$ 6,562,696	100.00%
Set-asides		
Administration	329,176	4.00%
State Program Management : (requires dollar for dollar match)		
Program Augmentation	632,940	7.70%
Capacity Development	25,000	0.30%
Source Protection	70,000	0.85%
Operator Certification	95,000	1.15%
Total State Program Management	822,940	10.00%
Small System technical Assistance	164,588	2.00%
Local Assistance (Up to 15%)		
WellHead Protection	25,000	
Capacity Development/Tech Assistance	325,000	
Total Local Assistance and Other State Programs	350,000	4.00%
Set-aside total	1,666,704	20.00%
Capitalization Grant Totals	8,229,400	100.00%
State 20% Match	$1,645,880	20.00%
State Program Management 1 for 1 match from general funds	$822,940	10.00%

Table 3		
Division of Drinking Water		
Funding Sources and Funding Commitments		
June 30, 2006		
	TOTAL	PERCENT
Capitalization:		
USEPA Capitalization grants	$83,539,100	84.7%
State match	15,067,040	15.3%
Total capitalization	98,606,140	100.0%
Less set-aside allocation	(16,196,430)	-16.4%
Additions to the loan fund	82,409,710	83.6%
Funded projects (closed loans):		
Standard loans - population over 10,000		0.0%
Standard	24,470,000	24.8%
Disadvantaged communities	11,345,000	11.5%
Small Systems - population less 10,000:		
Standard	18,444,000	18.7%
Disadvantaged communties	23,078,246	23.4%
Total closed loans	77,337,246	78.4%
Projects authorized but not yet closed	11,443,000	11.6%
Total authorized projects	88,780,246	90.0%
Available	(6,370,536)	-6.5%
Other available funds:		
Investment earnings	814,727	
Principal and interest payments	7,370,147	
Hardship fees	1,934,713	
Total	3,749,051	

B-2 Loan program:

Rule R309-705 establishes criteria for financial assistance to public drinking water systems in accordance with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. A copy of Rule R309-705 is attached. The 2007 DWSRF capitalization grant along with carry forward funds, repayments, interest and fee payments, and investment earnings provides the funds the Division has available to help public water systems finance needed drinking water projects.

A short list of anticipated projects requiring funding is listed below in Table 4(at the top of the priority list). The complete priority list is included as an attachment.

The first section lists projects authorized by the Drinking Water Board but the loan has not been closed. EPA does not consider the loan as committed until the loan documents are signed. Section two lists projects staff is working on to present to the Board for their consideration.

As conditions change, the Board may reassess project readiness, and choose to delay funding to those the Board considers “not ready to precede” rule R309-705-6.

Table 4

Federal SRF Loans

Project Priority List - (partial list)

January 2007

Priority Points	System Name	County	Pop.	Project Title	Project Total	Request	Funds Auth
Authorized but not yet closed.							
54.3	Twin Creeks SSD	Wasatch	54	Source Redev, Treat, Stg, Distr	$700,000	$450,000	$450,000
51.0	Central Iron Co WCD (Ph II)	Iron	2,082	Regionalization	$7,793,250	$3,500,000	$3,425,000
36.3	St. George	Washington	50,000	Arsenic Treatment of Gunlock Wells	$21,550,000	$1,000,000	$6,000,000
28.8	Logan City	Cache	44,970	DeWitt Sprgs Transmission Line	$9,200,000	$9,200,000	$3,000,000
19.2	Croydon Pipeline Co	Morgan	60	New Well	$250,000	$250,000	$327,000
15.6	Woodland & Kolob Acr	Wash.	?	Stg Tank, Pipeline, Pumphouse, Rights	$296,700	$296,700	$450,000
14.0	Portage Town	Box Elder	276	Spring development, stg tank & waterline	$1,535,000	$1,535,000	$985,500
Scored.							
33.3	Tooele Co Sp Service Dist	Tooele		Source, Trans, Treatment, & Storage	$500,000	$365,000	
22.5	Alta Town	Salt Lake	367	Treatment (Antimony)	$531,300	$425,000	

Description of Criteria and Method Used for Distribution of Loan Funds:

The complete description of the criteria and method used for distribution of funds is outlined in Utah Administrative Code (UAC) R309-705-6. As described in R309-705-6, the priority system assigns points to systems showing a deficiency in source, storage, treatment, and/or the distribution system. Points are assigned based on the relative risk of each deficiency, and are divided as applicable between health risk and compliance with SDWA. The applicant's priority points are modified by a financial factor, known as the Rate Factor, and the AGI Factor. Their calculation is shown below:

Priority rating = (Average number of points received) X (Rate Factor) X (AGI Factor)
Where: Rate Factor = (Average System Water Bill / Average State Water Bill)
AGI Factor= (State Median AGI/ System Median AGI

The priority points for demonstrated deficiencies are multiplied by the Rate Factor and AGI Factor to arrive at a final priority rating. This method addresses financial hardships caused in less affluent communities and in those already experiencing higher water rates.

Upon arriving at a final priority rating for each applicant, each application is rated and added to the priority list. The Board may, at its option, modify a project's priority rating based on the conditions described in R309-705.

The Board sets the effective interest and/or hardship and/or technical assistance rate. The most current Revenue Bond Buyer Index (RBBI) is used as the base rate. Table 2 in UAC R309-705-6 is used to determine the reduction of the interest rate (or other rate) and potentially may be reduced to zero percent.

Assistance for Disadvantaged Communities:

Section 1452 (d) allows the state to provide additional loan subsidies to benefit communities meeting the State's definition of "disadvantaged" provided that for each fiscal year the total amount of loan subsidies may not exceed 30 percent of the amount of the capitalization grant for the year.

The Utah Drinking Water Board defines Disadvantaged Communities as those communities located in an area which has a median adjusted gross income which is less than or equal to 80% of the State's median adjusted gross income, as determined by the Utah State Tax Commission from Federal individual income tax returns excluding zero exemption returns, or where the estimated annual cost, including loan repayment costs of drinking water service for the average residential user exceeds 1.75% of the median adjusted gross income. If, in the judgment of the Board, the State Tax Commission data is insufficient the board may accept other measurements of the water users income (i.e. local income survey or questionnaire when there is significant difference between the number of service connections for a system and the number of tax filing for a given zip code or city).

The amount and type of financial assistance offered by the Board will be based upon the criteria shown in R309-705-6 (2). Disadvantaged communities may receive zero-percent loans, negative interest rate loans, or principal-forgiveness loans. Terms for each method of financial assistance shall be determined by Board resolution.

The Board has not set any pre-determined amount of DWSRF funds that may be used for principal forgiveness to disadvantaged communities.

Costs Incurred After Application and Prior to Execution of the Loan Agreement:

Eligible project costs incurred after application to the Drinking Water Board and prior to execution of the loan agreement are eligible for reimbursement. Reimbursement will only be made after the loan closing.

Municipal Bond Legal Fees:

The Board may purchase bonds of the applicant only if the bonds are accompanied by a legal opinion of a recognized municipal bond counsel selected by the Drinking Water Board R309-705-8 (2). The loan recipient is responsible for the legal costs. Legal costs may be paid from the loan proceeds.

Capacity Development Requirements:

Eligible Systems: The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) allows DWSRF assistance to publicly and privately owned community water systems and nonprofit non-community water systems other than systems owned by Federal agencies. Federal Regulations also set forth certain circumstances under which systems that will become community water systems upon completion of a project may be eligible for assistance. State Administrative Rule R309-705 "Financial Drinking Water Project Revolving Loan Program. (Effective January 1, 2004) establishes criteria for financial assistance to public drinking water system in accordance with a federal grant 42 U.S.C. 300j et seq., Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. The SDWA requires that loan recipients must demonstrate the technical,

financial and managerial capacity (TFM) to comply with the SDWA and not be in significant noncompliance with any requirement of a national primary drinking water standard or variance. The State will assess TFM and compliance in accordance with State Administrative Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems R309-352 Capacity Development Program after loan applications have been received. Those systems lacking in TFM or compliance may still be eligible for a loan if the loan will address the non-compliance or the system agrees to undertake feasible and appropriate changes in operations

Environmental Reviews and Categorical Exclusions:

The State Environmental Review Process (SERP) is described in the Operating Agreement.

The Grantee, the State of Utah, may elect to partition an environmental review or Categorical Exclusion (Cat Ex) from environmental review. The procedures listed below will be followed by the State in order to evaluate if partitioning a project from environmental review is appropriate.

A. Authority:
The authority for including these procedures in the Division's Intended Use Plan (IUP) and State Environmental Review Process (SERP) is contained in the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Amendments of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-182) and the guidance provided by the EPA Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program Guidelines, document # 816-R-97-005 (February 1997). In particular, see Section IV. STATE/PROJECT LEVEL AUTHORITIES, Subsection B. Environmental Reviews.

B. Procedures for Making Determination Cat Ex:
1. If the Division has reason to believe that the project falls within one of the categories listed under paragraph "C" and thereby may qualify for a Cat Ex from environmental review, the State will make a preliminary survey of the proposed project site(s).
2. During this survey the State will evaluate whether or not the project meets the criteria for a Cat Ex from environmental review.
3. If the State determines the site qualifies for Cat Ex from environmental review, it will document the justification of this determination, including a listing of the dates of activities, which led to this determination, and a statement of relevant findings.
4. Even if the project qualifies for Cat Ex from environmental review according to the criteria listed under paragraph "C", the State may require an environmental review if the State determines that an environmental review is warranted or appropriate because of conditions found at the site or because the project is controversial.

C. Criteria for Categorical Exclusion From Environmental Review:
In order for a project to qualify for an environmental determination of Cat Ex from environmental review, the general location of the project should have been previously disturbed. Site conditions which will be evaluated in making this determination

include a) how urbanized the location is, b) whether wildlife has previously been displaced, and c) whether the wildlife habitual has been previously destroyed or replaced. The project site shall meet at least one of the following criteria:

1. A proposed water line will be placed in a roadway(s) and/or rights-of-ways where existing pipes, telephone wires, cables, or other facilities have previously been installed.
2. A proposed tank site will be located on a site with other previously constructed utility facilities on a previously disturbed site.
3. The proposed facilities will be located at a site with other existing community infrastructure; e.g. a booster station, pump house, water treatment plant, or similar facility within a previously disturbed area and which will not extend into sensitive areas in the ground or adjacent to the previously disturbed area.

D. Public Notice and Participation:
The State will provide public notice when a Cat Ex is issued or rescinded. However, no formal public comment period need be provided prior to the Cat Ex becoming effective.

B-3 SET-ASIDES:

The State Program Management set-aside requires a dollar for dollar match. The other set-asides do not have a match requirement. Up to 10% may be allocated to State Program Management set-aside**.** At least half of the State Program Management match must be additional to the amount expended by the State for public water supervision in fiscal year 1993. The State is authorized to use the amount of State funds it expended on its PWSS program in fiscal year 1993 as a credit toward meeting its match requirement. The value of this credit can be up to but not greater than 50 percent of the amount of the match that is required. The State will have no difficulty in meeting the required match.

Set-aside funding is used to:
Fund established programs
Fund continuing growth
Fund increasing operating costs
And to the extent set-aside funds are available, assist in funding the additional staff needed to implement new Federal rules regarding regulation of drinking water contaminants

The state will not use set-aside funds for those projects or project-related costs that are eligible or explicitly ineligible for assistance from the Fund except the State may use set-aside funds for, 1) project planning on design costs for small systems, and 2) for costs associated with restructuring a system as part of a capacity development strategy.

Set-aside funds are used on first awarded first used bases. Usage is accounted for by set-aside. Unused funds are carried forward to the next fiscal year. Set-aside funds allocated from the Federal 2007 grant will be used in state fiscal years 2008 and after.

The intended use of set-aside funds:

Maintain the staff (FTEs) hired with set-aside funds including benefits, costs allocated as a percent of personal services, and other related costs.

Continue our contract with the Rural Water Association of Utah to implement portions of the expanded operator certification, wellhead protection and capacity development programs.

Continue our contracts with the twelve local health departments to conduct sanitary surveys.

Table 5
Set-Aside Requests
FFY 2007

	Amount	Percentage
Capitalization Grant Totals	$8,229,400	100.00%
Set-asides		
Administration	$329,176	4.00%
State Program Management : (Requires dollar for dollar match)		
Program Augmentation	632,940	7.69%
Capacity Development	25,000	
Source Water Protection	70,000	0.85%
Operator Certification	95,000	1.15%
Total State Program Management	822,940	10.00%
Small System technical Assistance	164,588	2.00%
WellHead Protection	25,000	3.95%
Capacity Development	325,000	0.30%
Local Assistance and Other State Programs	350,000	4.25%
Set-Aside Total	$1,666,704	20.25%

Set-aside requests and intended use:

Administration set-aside:

We are requesting the $329,176 the maximum (4% X $8,229,400), we estimate a carry-forward to SFY 2007 of $1,519,235. The administration set-aside will fund four to five full-time equivalents (FTEs) position to operate the program SFY 2007. The budgeted estimate to fund salary, benefits, office space, equipment, travel, training, supplies, and the indirect allocation for SFY 2007 is $332,100. The administration set-aside does not require a state dollar for dollar match.

State Programs set-aside:

We are requesting $822,940 the maximum (10% x $8,229,400) divided to the sub-categories as listed on Table 5 (above). The sub-categories include PWS Supervision, Capacity Development, Operator Certification, and Source Protection. Budgeting, disbursements, and draws are accounted for by sub-categories.

The State Program set-aside requires a dollar for dollar state match. The dollar for dollar

match requirement is separate and in addition to the 20 percent match added to the loan program. We are able to meet the required dollar for dollar match using the current year State general fund allotment and, if need, the credit allowed by section 1452 (g) (2) for fiscal year 1993 PWSS expenses.

PWS Supervision (augmentation) set-aside:

We are requesting $632,940 from the 2007 grant; we estimate a carry-forward to SFY 2007 of $2,247,483. Expenditures for SFY 2007 are estimated at $781,900. This set-aside requires a dollar for dollar match.

The last two years in the IUP, a transfer of $65,000 was noted from the 2000 and 2001 grants, to transfer funds from Capacity Development to the PWS Supervision set-aside. All funds from the 2000 grant have been spent and the Capacity Development set-aside is currently being spent a satisfactory rate. Therefore, no transfer will be requested and additional funding of $25,000 is being requested.

The PWS Supervision set-aside provides the necessary resources for the Division of Drinking Water to continue performing basic core functions such as sanitary surveys, plan reviews, compliance monitoring, groundwater source protection, and many other facets of public health protection. Growth impacts in the state combined with the adoption of the 1986 SDWA amendments and other State and Federal regulations create a tremendous workload. The PWS Supervision set-aside funds are used to help support the additional staff. Approximately fourteen (16) FTE are supported by the PWS Supervision set-aside. In addition to the staff funding the PWS Supervision set-aside funds:

1. We have contracted with the Rural Water Association of Utah to provide two FTEs to do data input, and secretary type work to free-up scientist and engineers from filing, data input, and other non-professional duties. Funds from the PWS Supervision set-aside are used to fund a portion of the contract employees cost.
2. The State of Utah contracts with the twelve local health departments (LHD) to conduct sanitary surveys. $76,300 is funded from the PWS Supervision set-aside and the balance is from State general funds.
3. The cost of a Data Processing programmer is funded by the PWS Supervision set-aside to assist with continued development and implementation of SDWIS.

Capacity Development Program:

We are requesting $25,000 from the 2007 grant. The estimate carry-forward is $75,249. The amount budgeted was $17,100, but the amount spent thru April 2007, has been approximately $32,000. This set-aside requires a dollar for dollar match.

The State of Utah has statutory authority for a capacity development program (Section 19-4-104 of the Utah Safe Drinking Water Act). Time of one FTE, as needed, will oversee and maintain the program. The Division is current with all reports due to the Governor and USEPA.

Operator Certification Program:

The State has an Operator Certification program that has been mandatory since 1985. Prior to 1997 the program required community water systems serving more than 800 population and any public water systems treating surface water to have a certified operator. The statutory

authority to reduce the threshold population from 800 to 25 was enacted by the 1997 Legislature. The new Safe Drinking Water Act requires all community and non-transient, non-community water systems and all public water systems that treat surface water to have a certified operator. As a result of lowering the mandatory threshold from 800 to 25, the number of water systems requiring certification has tripled. The most significant changes to the rules regarding have been:

1) certified operators for systems serving a population less than 800
2) operator's grade level
3) grandparent certification

These new guidelines were implemented by the State of Utah on February 1, 2001. Water systems had until February 1, 2003 to comply with the new rule.

USEPA published final Guidance (EPA-816-R-98-006) in July 1998 establishing national policy regarding the implementation of the operator certification related provisions of the SDWA including how EPA would assess State operator certification program for purposes of making withholding decisions.

USEPA has approved the State's operator certification program. The "Operator Certification Training Grant" was completely spent by the end of calendar year 2006.

Funding for the Operator Certification program comes from two sources:
1) Fees
2) DWSRF Operator Certification set-aside

We are requesting $95,000 from the 2007 grant with an estimate carry forward of $210,901. Expenditures for FY 2007 were budgeted at $4,000. It is anticipated this will greatly increase in the next fiscal year. The Division contracts with the Rural Water Association annually to assist with operator certification training. The contract also funds staff training time and training supplies.

This set-aside requires a dollar for dollar match.

Source Protection Administration:

The SDWA Amendments of 1996 require states to develop and carry out a source water quality assessment program for all public water systems. The time of one FTE is dedicated to developing, implementing, and coordinating this program.

We are requesting $70,000 from the 2007 grant with an estimate carry forward of $78,000. Expenditures for FY 2007 we're budgeted at $77,900. This set-aside requires a dollar for dollar match.

Small Systems Technical Assistance:

We are requesting $164,588 the maximum allowed (2% x $8,229,400) with a carry forward of approximately $433,573. Expenses for 2007 are estimated at $185,000. The Act allows up to a total of 2% of the allotment to provide technical assistance to public water systems serving 10,000 people of fewer (section 1452(g) (2).

The State uses the RWAU to assist the Division of Drinking Water to accomplish the

following:

Arrange for and conduct one small group training per month involving 2-6 operators on the basic subjects covered in the Operator Certification Exam including: 1) Pumps and Motors, 2) Safety, 3) disinfection, 4) math, 5)Rules and 6) Operation and Maintenance. These training sessions will be 2 – 7 hours in length. Contractor agrees to print and mail announcements as well as arrange for the training sites and instructors.

Perform one-on-one contacts with water system operators training them on the basic subjects covered in the Operator Certification Exam and noted in areas 1-6 above. Each of these contacts will be from 2-6 hours in length and focus will be on those operators who have failed the certification exam, those with special learning needs, and those who have not yet certified.

Arrange for and conduct at least four Operator Certification training sessions to prepare operators to pass the Operator Certification Exam. These sessions will each be four days in length with the fourth day consisting of the exam. Two of these trainings will be held in conjunction with the Contractor's Annual and Northern Conferences.

On an on-going basis work on developing a self-study guide that can be distributed to and used by operators interested in studying on their own for the Operator Certification Exam.

Encourage and provide assistance to SNC (significant non-complier) type public water systems in applying for financial assistance from the Drinking Water Board in situation where this assistance will be helpful to the water system in returning to compliance with drinking water rules. As resources are available and as requested by the Drinking Water Board, assist water systems that have borrowed funds from the Drinking Water Board.

The Small Systems Technical Assistance set-aside does not require a state dollar for dollar match.

Local Assistance and Other State Programs:

We are requesting $350,000 which is less than the maximum of $1,234,410 (15% x $8,229,400) with a carry forward of approximately $537,684. It is divided into two sub-categories, capacity development and wellhead protection. Budgeting, disbursements, and draws are accounted for by sub-categories. This will fund two and one-half FTEs for implementation of local drinking water protection initiatives (section 1452(k)) and technical assistance for capacity development and wellhead protection. In addition, the contract with the Rural Water Association contains aspects of outreach, training and expanding system capabilities appropriate to charge against this set-aside and may include the following:

Arrange for and meet with five different county commissions at their regularly scheduled meetings to provide information to commissioners regarding Source Protection, Capacity Development and other Safe Drinking Water Act issues as appropriate.

Provide one-on-one assistance in the field with water system personnel serving communities

with a population less than 3,300, who need computer training and help in trouble shooting computer problems. Assist with understanding of consumer confidence reporting and how to develop the report. Assist water system personnel in learning and perfecting use of various pieces of software and database to improve water system operations.

Meeting with county commissions and encouraging them to adopt source protection ordinances for wellhead protection.

The Local Assistance and Other State Programs set-aside does not require a state dollar for dollar match.

C - ATTACHMENTS

Project Priority List (full list)
Attorney General Enabling Legislation Opinion Letter
Organization Chart

D - UTAH ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RULE R309-705

Rule for Projects Receiving Assistance from the Federal DWSRF Loan Program is available at www.drinkingwater.utah.gov

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND APPLICATION WORKSHEET					
FFY 2007					
SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES					
(a) Grant Program		(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS
8. SRF Capitalization Grant		2,468,820			2,468,820
9.					
10.					
11.					
12. TOTALS (sum of lines 8 - 11)		2,468,820			2,468,820
SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS for FFY 2007					
	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
	FFY 2006	FFY 2007	FFY 2007	FFY 2007	FFY 2007
13. Federal Loan Funds	0	0	0	0	0
14. Federal Set-Aside Funds	0	75,000	125,000	125,000	110,000
15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)	0	75,000	125,000	125,000	110,000
SECTION E - BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT					
(a) Grant Program	**PERIODS (YEARS)**				
	(b) First	(c) Second	(d) Third	(e) Fourth	
	FFY 2007	FFY 2008	FFY 2009		
16. Federal Loan Funds	0	0	0	0	
17. Federal Set-Aside Funds	75,000	75,000	0	0	
18.					
19.					
20. **TOTALS (sum of lines 16-19)**	75,000	75,000	0	0	
SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION (Attach additional sheets if Necessary)					
21. Direct Charges			22. Indirect Charges		15.93%
23. Remarks					

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND APPLICATION WORKSHEET

FFY 2006

SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY

Grant Program Function 0r	Catelogue of Federal Domestic Assistance	Estimated Unobligated Funds Federal (c)	Non - Federal (d)	New or Revised Budget Federal (e)	Non - Federal (f)	Total (g)
1. SRF Cap Grant	66.468			8,229,400		8,229,400
2. State Match					1,645,880	1,645,880
3. Dollar for Dollar					822,940	822,940
4.						
5. Totals				8,229,400	2,468,820	10,698,220

SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORY

6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY				
	(1) Fed. DWSRF	(2) Fed. Set-Aside	(3) State Match	(4) Dollar 4 Dollar	(5) TOTAL
a. Loan Fund	6,562,696		1,645,880		8,208,576
b. Administrative Set-Aside		329,176			329,176
c. PWS Supervision		632,940		632,940	1,265,880
d. Source Water Protection		70,000		70,000	140,000
e. Capacity Development State Prog		25,000		25,000	50,000
f. Operator Certification		95,000		95,000	190,000
g. Small Systems Tech. Assist.		164,588			164,588
h. Local Assistance		0			0
i. Capacity Development Local Asst.		325,000			325,000
j. Source Water Assessment		0			0
k. Wellhead Protection & Local Assistance		25,000			25,000
l. TOTALS	6,562,696	1,666,704	1,645,880	822,940	10,698,220

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND APPLICATION WORKSHEET					
FFY 2007					
SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES					
(a) Grant Program		(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS
8. SRF Capitalization Grant		2,468,820			2,468,820
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	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
	FFY 2006	FFY 2007	FFY 2007	FFY 2007	FFY 2007
13. Federal Loan Funds	0	0	0	0	0
14. Federal Set-Aside Funds	0	75,000	125,000	125,000	110,000
15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)	0	75,000	125,000	125,000	110,000
SECTION E - BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT					
(a) Grant Program	**PERIODS (YEARS)**				
	(b) First	(c) Second	(d) Third	(e) Fourth	
	FFY 2007	FFY 2008	FFY 2009		
16. Federal Loan Funds	0	0	0	0	
17. Federal Set-Aside Funds	75,000	75,000	0	0	
18.					
19.					
20. **TOTALS (sum of lines 16-19)**	75,000	75,000	0	0	
SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION (Attach additional sheets if Necessary)					
21. Direct Charges			22. Indirect Charges		15.93%
23. Remarks					

AGENDA 12

NEWS ARTICLES

The Salt Lake Tribune

http://www.sltrib.com

Wait to water
Public Forum Letter
Salt Lake Tribune
Article Last Updated:05/01/2007 03:37:25 AM MDT

I am amazed at how many residences, churches and schools have already unleashed their sprinkler systems on their still-soggy lawns. Haven't we been asked to refrain from doing so until the weather really warms up? Don't these people know that they are weakening their poor grass by not allowing the roots to go down deep into the ground?

With this winter's sad snowpack, we can be assured of water shortages later in the summer. Why is it that people must be gluttonous until a crisis is staring them in the face?

John R. Peterson
Salt Lake City

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The Salt Lake Tribune http://www.sltrib.com

Southwest Utah community

Water's taste, smell turns them off

Copper-sulfate applied to algae at a reservoir appears to be providing the desired results

By Mark Havnes
The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:04/28/2007 01:28:30 AM MDT

CEDAR CITY - Quail Creek stinks.

So say some Washington County residents, who have complained that the water from taps has a musty taste and smell.

The problem should clear up soon, according to water officials.

Earlier this month, the Washington County Water Conservancy District treated the reservoir, located about 10 miles northeast of St. George, with a copper-sulfate compound to kill the algae causing the problem.

Barbara Hjelle, assistant general manager and general counsel for the water district, said Friday that, since taking over the reservoir's treatment facility last year, the agency has fielded about 50 complaints regarding the nasty water.

A task force traced the problem to byproducts from a particular type of algae.

Hjelle said the treatment forced crews to close the reservoir for three days last week, much to the dismay of some fishers and boaters. Signs and notices in area newspapers informed residents of the closure in advance.

Hjelle said the reservoir had to be off-limits so a helicopter could drop pellets containing the copper sulfate on the affected areas.

The reservoir now is open again to fishing and boating.

Jamie Carpenter, a water-quality specialist with the St. George Water Department, said the algae byproducts present no known health problems.

"It's a matter of aesthetics," Carpenter said.

Divers investigated Thursday and reported that the treatment appears to have worked, but the water district and water department will continue monitoring the reservoir.

"This is the first time we've had to treat the reservoir," Hjelle said, "but I can't say if it will be the last."

mhavnes@sltrib.com

deseretnews.com

Deseret Morning News, Wednesday, April 25, 2007

Lake Powell slipping below 2006 levels

By Joe Bauman
Deseret Morning News

Lake Powell is like the proverbial glass of water. It's either half full or half empty, depending on how you look at it.

At the moment, it is almost exactly half full, measuring by capacity. Its storage on June 30, the end of the water year, is predicted to be 48 percent.

Metaphorically, the giant reservoir in southern Utah and northern Arizona is half empty because it still hasn't recovered from the drought that started in 1999. And it's half full because, according to federal experts, reservoirs like it are helping Westerners through the dusty years.

Tom Ryan, hydrologist with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Upper Colorado Region, pointed out that a scant spring runoff this year means the enormous reservoir will be about 94 feet below its full level on July 1. At 3,606 feet above sea level, that's around five feet lower than it was at the same time the previous year.

"The good news is we've got a lot of storage (water) in the Colorado River system, designed to carry us through droughts like this," he added. "The system's working as intended. We're weathering a very severe, multiyear drought."

Lake Powell is among a multitude of rivers, lakes and reservoirs throughout the West that are experiencing a snowmelt season that is far skimpier than normal.

According to a water supply update from Reclamation, "Nearly every Western basin registered a decline in snowpacks with significant melt-outs." It cited the Natural Resources Conservation Service, another federal agency, as saying the losses were greatest in the Southwest and in central Oregon, "where snowpacks declined more than 30 percent."

It cited Utah, Arizona, Nevada, California and eastern Oregon as having "extremely low" snowpacks. There, it adds, "some sites ... had already melted out" by April 1.

"This is also true in California's Sierra Nevada and should result in a very poor spring and summer stream flow and runoff," it said.

Fortunately, it added, reservoir storage is above average in California, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada and Washington "and only slightly below normal in Oregon and Utah, providing some cushion from the expected poor 2007 stream flow and runoff forecast."

Arizona, Montana, New Mexico and Wyoming reservoirs are below their normal level, however.

The only exception to the dry conditions is in the Great Plains. There, Reclamation Commissioner Robert Johnson said, initial reports "indicate a spring that is more normal and wetter than what the region has faced in past years. The state of Oklahoma is drought-free for the first time since 2005. ... "

The half-full perspective is that Utah's water storage is not in bad shape; the half-empty view is that runoff into Lake Powell is projected to be only 53 percent of normal, causing the lake to lose a couple feet of elevation by the end of the water year.

Utah's snowpack is about 60 percent of normal, Ryan said, and "those numbers are not favorable."

Some water managers consider that Utah underwent a six-year drought from 1999 through 2004. But Ryan has another interpretation for the overall region.

"We're in a protracted drought," he said. "This will be the eighth year of drought in the Colorado River Basin."

Only 2005 had a favorable runoff, he said, and that was just 105 percent of normal.

"It wasn't a wet year, but it was above average, and the (Lake Powell) reservoir gained about 50 feet," he said.

The 2006 runoff was mediocre, he said.

"This year's a mediocre year at best. So we're holding our own. ... But we could sure use a better year to bring Lake Powell up to a more comfortable level," he said.

Meanwhile, Reclamation's national report warns that the West may have an "early and long fire season as a result of the drought and early snowmelt combination."

E-mail: bau@desnews.com

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deseretnews.com

Deseret Morning News, Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Draper leak raises land concerns

Associated Press

DRAPER -- The city may have lost as much as 15 million gallons of water over the winter because of a leaky tank valve, a spill that is raising concerns about the stability of a sloped area.

"As far as we can tell, nothing has moved, but water acts as a lubricant," Councilman Bill Colbert said. "This material, once it becomes wet, is a lot heavier and tends to move.

"The ground is saturated. It's just a mess," he said.

The leak was fixed last week.

The tank can hold about 15 million gallons at any time, enough for 46 families for a year. Mayor Darrell Smith said he's waiting for a report on the actual amount lost.

Hamlet Homes spokesman Nick Mingo said he wasn't concerned about landslides. But he's bothered by water seeping into soil at an embankment cut along SunCrest Drive.

Mingo said he repaired the leak before the city contacted him, but the water continued to run down the hill.

Colbert said it was difficult to detect the leak because melting snow was still streaming down the hillside. Until tests were conducted, the city could not separate snowmelt from the leaking water.

"It took just a few days to find (the leak), but it took a week at least for the water to stop," he said.

Another city councilman, Paul Edwards, said most of the water was leaking out of the ground on a hill at the north end of the cut along SunCrest. It troubles him because the south side of the road has failed in the past.

"When you add that amount of water to soil that's already potentially unstable, it's a problem," Edwards said.

The Salt Lake Tribune

http://www.sltrib.com

Dam fixed, but water is low

Willard Bay's depleted supply has officials wary of drought conditions

By Cathy McKitrick
The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune
Article Launched:04/24/2007 02:29:59 AM MDT

WILLARD - Repairs of a weakened, leaky section of Willard Bay's Arthur V. Watkins Dam finished last week, giving area water officials renewed confidence in the 43-year-old structure.

The outlook for the reservoir's water supply, however, is another matter.

A dismal snowpack season, combined with what was already the loss of 100,000 acre-feet of water from Willard Bay to make way for dam repairs, has dimmed hopes of avoiding drought conditions.

"We're not at a crisis now, even though the water picture this year looks bleak," said Brent Rhees, deputy manager for the Bureau of Reclamation, citing average and above-average runoff flows of the last two years.

Precipitation over the next few years will determine whether that crisis develops, Rhees added. But water officials are already preparing to deal with looming shortages.

"That net loss in a dry year means we'll have to pinch on our water usage this summer," said Chris Hogge, irrigation manager for Weber Basin Water Conservancy District.

In the next few weeks, Hogge says he expects to have to tap water from Willard Bay to service consumers due to the area's low stream levels. Usually that event occurs weeks later, in June or July, he said.

Over the past month, the berm, which stretches 600 feet long, eight feet tall and 250 feet wide, was installed to bolster the area where seepage was detected last November.

Workers packed 50,000 tons of material from nearby gravel pits along the west side of the dike to form the new berm, a job that cost $1 million.

Last fall, after a series of leaks were discovered, temporary berms were installed on the east side of the dike as a stop-gap and the bay's water level was dropped 10 feet to allow for further inspection of the weakened dike. That release of the 100,000 acre-feet - a family of four uses about one acre-foot of water in a year - added up to more than half of the reservoir's holdings at the time.

With other improvements scheduled over the next year, the recent work allows for 40,000 acre-feet of water - a rise of four feet - to flow back into the reservoir, said Hogge.

About 20,000 of the lost 100,000 acre-feet of water has been replaced so far, he noted.

Next week crews will drill into the dike to identify what's known as the hard pan, mineralized material about eight feet below the surface. Rhees suspects leakage occurred below the hard pan.

"If we can determine depth and thickness, we can figure out corrective action," Rhees said.

Under a cost-sharing agreement, the Federal government pays 85 percent and Weber Basin picks up the remainder. Further reconstruction of the dike's 3-1/2 mile stretch will occur next year, Rhees said

Boaters have begun to slowly trickle back into the popular northern Utah recreation spot.

"They can come back as soon as they dare," Hogge said, warning that in some low-water spots, "they could lose a propeller easily."

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Plan on drought: Mitigation will require time, work, money

Tribune Editorial
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:04/21/2007 01:45:20 PM MDT

Jared Diamond's book *Collapse* tells how earlier civilizations committed slow suicide through a creeping process of environmental degradation. In the Americas, the Maya and the culture at Chaco Canyon, in what is now northern New Mexico, were done in by droughts made worse by disastrous farming and building practices and by overpopulation.

These should be cautionary tales for Utahns. This month, the leading international panel on climate change warned that global warming will very likely increase the possibility of severe drought in the American West in the coming decades. This will occur as the Utah population is soaring in arid places like St. George on the cusp of the Mojave Desert.

Against this backdrop, the Utah Division of Water Resources has issued a new report, "Drought in Utah: Learning From the Past - Preparing for the Future." Its message, conveyed in dry, bureaucratic prose, boils down to this: Drought is common in Utah, and the possibility of future dry spells lasting 10 years or longer is real. But we can mitigate the impacts and ensure environmental integrity by applying risk management in advance.

The report recommends nine strategies. The more unusual ones include storing water in undergound aquifers, reusing treated wastewater, and selling farm water to cities during shortages. Water systems should be better interconnected to move water around.

This does not mean just building big water projects. Much of the political debate today pits the builders against the river-huggers. In a sense, that's a false debate, because to best utilize a dwindling supply, Utahns must individually use less, protect watershed, diversify supplies and store and move water more efficiently.

In the past, Utahns have emphasized the building. We're playing catch-up on conservation, though we're getting better at that, too.

Public education is critical. For example, you may be wondering how much you should be watering your lawn now, or how you can conserve by xeriscaping. Reducing demand, by decreasing turf and requiring water-wise landscaping, is an important drought mitigation strategy.

For information on water conservation and Salt Lake City's Water Shortage Contingency Plan, visit the city's utilities Web site at www.ci.slc.ut.us/utilities and click on the water conservation graphic on the bottom left of the page. Or call 483-6860.

Outside Salt Lake City, pull up the Utah Division of Water Resources Web site at www.conservewater.utah.gov, or call 801-538-7254. That's also where you can read the new drought report.

Conserve water first

Public Forum Letter
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:04/20/2007 08:28:15 PM MDT

The April 13 article "Debate bubbles up over plan for a Lake Powell pipeline" was quite informative. However, the phrase "water conservation" was conspicuous by its absence.

Presently, the per capita use of water in St. George is approximately 350 gallons per day. The average per capita use nationwide is about 250 gallons per day, and through aggressive planning, Tucson, Ariz., has its water use down to about 160 gallons per person per day. Therefore, what St. George needs more than a Lake Powell pipeline is an aggressive water conservation plan. This would forestall the "need" for a pipeline for many years, and possibly forever once people stop moving there because it is too crowded.

And Ron Thompson's remark that "The federal government has nothing to do with this . . . " leads me to believe he hasn't done his homework. Funding is not the only way the federal government gets involved in projects like this one. There will be permits required from at least one federal agency, and this will trigger compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act along with other federal environmental laws.

The leaders in St. George and Washington County need to think water conservation first, and pipeline second.

Gordon Lind
Sandy

deseretnews.com

Deseret Morning News, Monday, April 23, 2007

Worse droughts ahead?

Water experts say Utah must diversify supplies

By Joe Bauman
Deseret Morning News

Utah is in for longer — and worse — droughts, predicts a new scientific report.

"Drought in Utah: Learning from the Past — Preparing for the Future" was issued this month by the state's Division of Water Resources. A dozen experts from the division prepared the document, with Brian King as the primary author.

The report emphasizes the need to diversify water supplies in order to mitigate future droughts. It praises Salt Lake City for taking such measures, ensuring a reliable supply.

"Drought can never fully be mitigated and an element of 'coping' or 'living with drought' will always exist," it points out. But action can lessen the severity of coming dry cycles.

A surprising finding is that for more than a century, Utah has enjoyed an unusually stable climate.

That is the same period during which many scientists have claimed human-caused global warming has accelerated. But whether this phenomenon — if it actually exists — missed Utah or its effects aren't fully felt yet in the Beehive State — or if it is actually beneficial to the state — the fact remains that the past 111 years of instrumented weather records show unusually good water supply.

The shore of Bear Lake, seen in August 2004, shows the effects of the 1999-2004 drought.
Ray Boren, Deseret Morning News

However, droughts "occurred years and millennia before the start of monitoring and recording climatic/weather conditions," the report notes.

Dendrochronology, the study of tree rings, lays out tangible evidence of year-by-year weather conditions stretching back more than 2,000 years. The width of tree rings, reflecting trees' yearly growth, tell of wet or dry conditions.

"Analysis of this record indicates that many droughts, before the advent of the instrumental record, were more severe, more frequent and impacted larger areas," the report states.

"On average, drought contained in the reconstructed ... record (roughly 1,900 years before the instrumental record) was approximately 10.9 years in length compared to the average drought duration of 6.8 years during the last 111 years (instrumental record)."

Other methods of determining past conditions, such as studies of lake sediments, reinforce the conclusion, it says.

"Research indicates that prolonged dry periods have occurred in greater frequency than has been experienced within the past century."

Coupled with evidence of climate change, it adds, episodes similar to past conditions will probably happen again. In other words, there will be droughts that are "more severe and longer duration" than experienced in the past 100 years.

State water experts have written a "Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan" addressing drought and other natural hazards. But "Drought in Utah" calls for "more drought specific planning and action."

Suggested mitigations include transfer of water by a water banking system from willing sellers to willing buyers during drought; "conjunctive management" of groundwater and surface water; interconnecting water systems; new water developments; reusing treated waste water; managing water demand; metering use and detecting leaks; weather modification; and a drought early-warning system.

Randy Julander, a premier water supply expert and a member of the panel that reviewed the report, said the study was "extremely well-researched and has some really big lessons" for Utah.

The snow survey supervisor for the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service in Salt Lake City, he said many people have relied on the

historical record of observed snowpacks, precipitation, temperature, etc. They show years of plentiful water and years of drought, he added.

But by extending the record back to 2,000 years ago, he said, "I think the take-home message is that the period that we have been living in this past 100, 150 years or so has been one of the most stable that this region has experienced in the last many, many centuries."

Greater climatic variability can be expected in the future, he said, "regardless of where that variability comes from."

Based on the long-term hydrologic record, "we would think that these (severe drought) conditions sometime in the future will replay themselves."

People need to be more conservation-minded, according to Julander. With Utah's population booming and possible droughts looming in the future, residents need to be forward-thinking and conserve continuously, not only when drought hits.

The drought that Utah suffered from 1999 through 2004 may not be nearly as bad as dry spells to come, Julander said.

"That's a sobering thought."

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deseretnews.com

Deseret Morning News, Sunday, April 22, 2007

Water-project viability questioned

Engineer reduces amount Nevada pipeline could carry

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — A state water engineer's decision cutting the amount of water Las Vegas would be able to draw from rural Nevada raised concerns from a regional analyst about the financial viability of a massive pipeline that would be built for the project.

Meantime, Utah water officials told legislators Thursday that negotiations with Nevada over the water project, which crosses state lines, are going slowly. Division of Natural Resources director Mike Styler told a legislative interim committee the state could use up to $1 million to fund studies and negotiations. At issue is whether Utah ranch lands would see streams and wells dry up if underground water from the area along the Nevada border is piped to Las Vegas.

Nevada state engineer Tracy Taylor's decision on Monday allows the Southern Nevada Water Authority to pump 40,000 acre-feet of water per year for 10 years from Spring Valley, in White Pine County near the Utah border. The authority had sought 91,000 acre-feet per year.

"At some point, there's a threshold where you're not moving enough water to offset the capital cost," said Jeremy Aguero, a principal with the economic consulting firm Applied Analysis in Las Vegas.

The Spring Valley plan is a main element of a $2 billion plan to build a 250-mile pipeline to draw rural groundwater mainly from the Spring and Snake valleys and send it to Clark County — home to almost 1.9 million of the state's 2.6 million residents and the economic engine of the state's gambling and tourism economy.

Water authority spokesman Scott Huntley said Monday that the pipeline project would move forward. He called Taylor's ruling "conservative but very reasonable" and said no appeal was planned.

But a critic of the pumping request, Susan Land of the Great Basin Water Network, said she thought the decision threatened the cost-effectiveness of the water authority's pipeline project.

Aguero told the Las Vegas Review-Journal for a Tuesday report that he did not know how many acre-feet of water the pipeline would need to carry for the project to make fiscal sense.

Aguero was appearing Tuesday before the state Legislature in Carson City and did not immediately respond to a request by The Associated Press for comment.

But "if (the water allotment) doesn't meet critical mass to develop the in-state water project, it's absolutely bad for southern Nevada and, frankly, for Nevada," Aguero told the Review-Journal.

The water authority hired Aguero's firm to analyze how an interruption in growth would affect the state economy. The company found that Nevada's businesses and residents could suffer if fiscal considerations prevent development of the water system.

Monica Caruso, a spokeswoman for the Southern Nevada Home Builders Association, said the trade group submitted letters of support to the state for the water authority's initial water request.

"It's our position that we live in the desert, and we do need to find new sources of water, not just for future growth, but for the people who are already living here — for the future generations of children and grandchildren," Caruso said.

Taylor's decision apparently won't affect Las Vegas-area hotel-casinos and high-rise condominiums under development.

MGM Mirage's $7 billion Project CityCenter, Las Vegas' Sands Corp.'s $1.8 billion Palazzo, Wynn Resorts Ltd.'s $1.74 billion Encore, and the $600 million Trump International Hotel and Tower received water rights as part of their predevelopment approval processes, officials said.

Contributing: Steve Fidel, Deseret Morning News

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deseretnews.com

Deseret Morning News, Sunday, April 22, 2007

Huntington North Dam undergoing changes

The Huntington North Dam, the main feature of the Emery County Project, is undergoing its first major modification since it was constructed more than 50 years ago.

The modifications will connect the existing dam's outlet to a new pressure pipeline, allowing farmers to water more efficiently and effectively through the use of a modern sprinkler system. The modifications will also allow the reservoir to be maintained at a more consistent elevation while providing pressure to the pipeline and benefiting fishing and boating enthusiasts.

Although the future project benefits are significant, they may not be readily apparent now to local residents. The reservoir, which was completely drained in September, remains nearly empty. To maintain the safety of the structure and all personnel working on the project, it has been kept below the level of the intake structure. When connections to the dam are made and adjacent structures are installed, the reservoir will be refilled.

The work at North Dam is part of a larger pressure irrigation system consisting of a series of large-diameter water pipeline under construction in the Huntington area. While work on the overall system will be ongoing, the work at the dam itself should be completed within weeks.

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Outdoor Industry Association

Group opposes conservation fund cuts

It lobbies Congress to reverse a proposal by Bush to pull back cash

By Robert Gehrke
The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:04/21/2007 01:16:10 AM MDT

WASHINGTON - Fearing that the neglect and deterioration of wild lands in Utah and the West could threaten their business, representatives of the Outdoor Industry Association asked Congress this week to take action.

The retailers were urging members of Congress to reverse cuts proposed by President Bush to the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which helps build trails, parks, boat docks and other recreation areas.

The lands that are preserved by the fund, said Peter Metcalf, CEO of Black Diamond Equipment, are the foundation for the industry that contributes $730 billion a year and 6.5 million jobs to the U.S. economy, according to an industry study, "and right now they're not being maintained and being grossly under-funded."

"It's easy to turn a blind eye and say we'll fund it next year," said Metcalf. By the time you get around to funding it, it's too late.

Mark Rasmussen, president and CEO of Petzl America, which manufactures climbing equipment, said the projects supported by the Land and Water Conservation Fund are the type that average Americans take advantage of in their local communities.

The industry representatives were also supporting a proposal to infuse $1 billion in new funding for the National Parks over the next decade, and to seek matching funds from private industry.

Metcalf and Rasmussen were two of about 40 executives on Capitol Hill this week. Both of their companies have a strong presence in Utah.

The association's study estimates that the outdoor industry contributes $5.8 billion to the state's economy and creates 65,000 jobs. Ignoring its importance would be like letting Hill Air Force Base shut down, said Metcalf.

The association has already built a record of flexing its political muscle in Utah, successfully pressing Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman Jr. not to move on a petition to the U.S. Forest Service that could have had the effect of opening forest lands to development.

And previously, the retailers had used the threat of relocating their annual convention away from Salt Lake City to leverage wilderness concessions from then-Gov. Mike Leavitt.

Metcalf said the association is making its case to Congress that recreation is a valuable, sustainable, productive use of the public lands, and deserves a seat at the table, along with the oil and gas industry and others.

The Utah members of the association had meetings in the offices of Reps. Jim Matheson, Chris Cannon and Rob Bishop and with Sen. Bob Bennett this week.

Article published Apr 19, 2007

Districts discuss water pipeline

By TIFFANY DE MASTERS
tdemasters@thespectrum.com

ST. GEORGE - Members of the three water conservancy districts in Southern Utah met Wednesday afternoon to discuss phase one of the Lake Powell pipeline project at Abbey Inn, 1129 S. Bluff St.

Ron Thompson, general manager for the Washington County Water Conservancy District, said the Lake Powell pipeline project is meant to bring water into southwestern Utah, affecting Washington, Iron and Kane counties.

"We need this water so young people have a future," he said. "No water, no growth, no future."

That's why officials from the Washington, Central Iron and Kane water conservancy districts are so interested in the project.

Engineering firm MWH was contracted to start phase one of the project.

Marc Brown, with MWH, said they started the phase March 1. It's projected to last 18 months.

"Population projections are key," Brown said. "The growth will have an impact - not on how much water you need, but when you need it. It will provide water resources for those who are raising their kids. We'll be putting it in just in time to meet growth demands."

Brown said this phase includes the preliminary engineering studies and environmental studies.

MWH is being paid $5.6 million to complete the first phase of the pipeline project.

"We're trying to figure out how to get water from point A, B and C in the most environmentally responsible way," he said.

The first phase looks to see how the project is going to affect the environment.

Brown said there are three more phases. The last phase is the construction phase, which will begin approximately around 2016 and be complete around 2020.

Thompson said the entire project will cost approximately $500 million, which the state will lend to the water conservancy districts to complete the project.

Water conservancy districts will pay it back to the state.

Eric Millis, deputy director for the Utah Division of Water Resources, said the state considers the Lake Powell pipeline to be a state project.

"We'll develop it with your needs in mind," he said.

Millis said the Legislature has funded the project along with the Water Resources Board and local funds.

Brent Hunter, with the Iron County Water Conservancy District, said they have a problem in Iron County because the water table is going down.

"Essentially we're mining for the water we have," he said.

Hunter said if they don't put the pipeline in, they would have to continue to try to find ways to conserve water.

"If we can't come up with an increase in water, we'll just have to stop growth," he said. "We're trying to leave no stone unturned. We're not in a crisis, we're just looking down the road at problems we foresee."

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Residential development

15M gallons leak from water valve in Draper

SunCrest already is in an area prone to landslides, but owners not worried

By Steve Gehrke
The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:04/20/2007 04:33:51 AM MDT

DRAPER - A faulty valve at SunCrest leaked as many as 15 million gallons of water over the winter - enough to meet a year's basic water needs for 46 typical Utah families.

The potential of that leak, in a possible landslide area, is not lost on Councilman Bill Colbert.

"As far as we can tell, nothing has moved, but water acts as a lubricant," he said. "This material, once it becomes wet, is a lot heavier and tends to move.

"The ground is saturated; it's just a mess."

The leak of city-owned water - the city's engineer could not be reached Thursday to put a price tag on the loss - was repaired last week. And financial responsibility for the lost water has yet to be determined.

Colbert said it was important for the city to look into what caused the leak because such an event could result from an otherwise undetected landslide. And he and others in the city worry that the area - where Hamlet Homes is building a subdivision - could be prone to movement.

Hamlet Homes spokesman Nick Mingo said he wasn't concerned about landslides, but he was bothered by the water seeping into the soil at a "significant-sized" embankment cut along SunCrest Drive.

"Water flowing in there concerned me," he said, adding that he does not think "this water had any impact in any way on any landslide - whether it exists or not."

Councilman Paul Edwards said the bulk of the water was leaking out of the ground on a hillside at the north end of that cut. This troubled him because that road's south side has failed before.

"When you add that amount of water to soil that's already potentially unstable, it's a problem," Edwards said.

The water tank holds about 15 million gallons at any one time, but Councilman Jeff Stenquist said it's hard to tell exactly how much of the loss could be attributed to the leak. Mayor Darrell Smith said he expected to have an estimate this week.

Ed Grampp, vice president of SunCrest master developer Terrabrook, downplayed the leak, saying it is no longer an issue.

"We asked our experts to look at everything," Grampp said. "It was fixed, and we're unaware of any effects now lingering."

Mingo said he repaired the leak before the city even contacted him - and the water continued to run down the hill.

However, Grampp and Draper officials said it would take a while for all the accumulated water to rise to the surface and disperse.

"We took a proactive approach," said Mingo. "As soon as we realized there was a problem, we took care of it on our own."

Colbert said it was difficult to detect the leak earlier because snow runoff was still streaming down the hillside. Until tests were conducted, the city could not separate the snowmelt from the leaking culinary water.

"It took just a few days to find [the leak], but it took a week at least for the water to stop."

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Vegas can take Spring Valley water

Nevada engineer rules on plan for pipeline near the Utah border

By Joe Baird
The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:04/19/2007 01:52:18 AM MDT

In a decision that could have eventual repercussions for Utah, Nevada's state engineer has determined that Las Vegas water authorities are entitled to roughly half the groundwater they have requested for a proposed pipeline project that would ship water from the eastern part of the state to southern Nevada.

Nevada State Engineer Tracy Taylor issued a 56-page decision this week authorizing the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) to take up to 40,000 acre-feet of water annually from Spring Valley, located west of Great Basin National Park, for a 10-year period. An acre-foot is typically the amount of water a family of four consumes in a year.

If it is determined there are minimal or no impacts from such a withdrawal, the state will authorize the withdrawal of an additional 20,000 acre-feet annually, bringing the total yearly take to 60,000 acre-feet. The SNWA's permit application requested a withdrawal of 91,000 acre-feet annually.

Utah water officials say they don't expect the decision, outwardly anyway, to affect negotiations between the states over how groundwater in neighboring Snake Valley, located east of Spring Valley along the state line, will be shared. Such an agreement is necessary before the SNWA can pursue groundwater in Snake Valley - the next phase of its pipeline project.

"I haven't had an opportunity to study it in detail, but just reviewing it briefly, it appears to be a very sound decision," Utah State Engineer Jerry Olds said Tuesday. "The Nevada state engineer has tried to administer the resource based on the safe yield that he knows is there."

Nevada engineer Taylor has determined that the perennial safe yield in Spring Valley - the amount of water that can be taken without significantly depleting the valley's groundwater table - is 80,000 acre-feet per year.

"It's a conservative decision but a reasonable one that allows us to move forward with the project," said SNWA General Manager Pat Mulroy in a statement.

But ranchers and conservationists have argued that any significant groundwater withdrawal from Spring Valley will not only have an impact on that area, but Snake Valley as well because of the way water flows between connecting aquifers.

"We can probably expect some impacts to springs with native species, even with the 40,000 acre-feet," said Don Duff, president of the Great Basin chapter of Trout Unlimited. "We'll be keeping close tabs on Spring Valley, as well as the south end of Snake Valley because the connectivity is there."

The connectivity issue has been even heightened in recent weeks following a preview of an upcoming U.S. Geological Survey study that shows more water flowing from Spring Valley to Snake Valley than previously thought. It has become a factor in the Utah-Nevada negotiations.

"It changes things some, but not dramatically," said Olds, the Utah engineer. "A lot of the water [the USGS] shows coming over is basically used up by higher evapotranspiration rates in Snake Valley."

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Counties meet on Powell pipeline

By Mark Havnes
The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:04/19/2007 01:52:07 AM MDT

ST. GEORGE - The proposed Lake Powell pipeline will funnel more than water to a thirsty southwestern Utah.

It also will bring jobs, businesses, opportunity. In a word: money.

"This [pipeline] will deliver the economic future to the region," Steve Wilson, manager of the Central Iron County Water Conservancy District, said Wednesday.

Wilson, along with managers from water districts in Washington and Kane counties and other government officials, huddled here to get a progress report on the planned pipeline, which would transport water 130 miles from Lake Powell to a reservoir in Washington County.

The state would build the pipeline and then contract with conservancy districts in Washington, Iron and Kane counties to repay the building costs, pegged at $500 million to $800 million.

The state also would set the price that could be charged for the water.

Eric Mills, deputy director of the Utah Division of Water Resources, said the pipeline would be the first big water project built by the state.

For now, completion is targeted for 2020, ahead of the 2035 end date anticipated for the proposed Bear River dam and pipeline in northern Utah.

Part of the $17.5 million allocated for water projects in Utah by the Legislature this year includes $5.6 million to hire HMW Global Inc. as engineering consultants on the Lake Powell project.

Marc Brown, project engineer for HMW, said Wednesday that engineering teams will study the pipeline plans, financing, environmental concerns, water needs and supplies, and the power expected to be generated by the project.

In 18 months, that information will go to the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, which will hire a firm to complete the environmental impact statement.

Ron Thompson, executive director of the Washington County Water Conservancy District, expects lawsuits opposing the pipeline. But, he predicted, if the environmental work is sound, the project will dodge the delays that plagued Legacy Highway construction in northern Utah.

Even so, pipeline skeptics and foes are out there.

Lin Alder - a member of the steering committee for Vision Dixie, a grass-roots group dedicated to determining how Washington County should manage its booming growth - said many residents argue for more conservation and less-expensive water remedies.

Alder warned that interest could push the pipeline tab to $1.5 billion.

"If people want to pay that much for wasting water," he said, "then so be it."

Alder also lamented that water's current low cost leaves little incentive for conservation.

Thompson countered that conservation programs are in place and emphasized that the pipeline is needed to meet the demands of expected growth.

"We can't afford to be shortsighted now."

mhavnes@sltrib.com

Feds debate protecting rivers in Summit County

Many of Utah's most prestigious streams are in Uinta Mountains

Patrick Parkinson, Of the Record staff

Scenic stretches of the Provo and Weber rivers in the Uinta Mountains may be eligible for federal protection, which means efforts to designate the streams could result in developers not being allowed to encroach on their nearly pristine bank.

The Henry's Fork, Blacks Fork, and stretches of the Weber and Provo rivers are slated for designation by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968.

"We'll be working on streams only on national forest lands," said Cathy Kahlow, Kamas district ranger in the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Currently no rivers in Utah enjoy the federal protection but most of the segments nominated in the state are situated in Summit County.

To qualify, officials ask if the river is "a great representation of a river in Utah that we want to be on a national showcase," Kahlow explained.

Among aims of the program are protecting rivers from development related to mining and timber harvesting and preserving water quality.

"The wild and scenic rivers are a very important topic," said Steve Ryberg, the U.S. Forest Service's Evanston District ranger.

Qualifying for protection means the streams have "outstanding remarkable values," he said.

"Could it flow without impediment, either dams or diversions or so forth?" asked Val Payne, who helps Gov. Jon Huntsman Jr. determine how state lands are used.

The program classifies river segments based on their "wild, scenic or recreational" values.

Wild rivers have very little evidence of any development with access only via trails, officials say.

"Wild would have no mining," Kahlow said.

Among river segments in Summit County that are candidates for wild designations are the Henry's Fork, Thompson Creek, East Fork Blacks Fork, Ostler Creek, Boundary Creek and the Middle Fork of the Weber River.

"It's too bad that the public gets plugged in [late]," said Dick Carter, coordinator of the High Uintas Preservation Council, about U.S. Forest Service officials meeting last week with commissioners.

But he praised the government's recommendations.

"The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is critical," Carter said. "Our primary concern is to protect those wild and scenic rivers at the outset, that are outside designated wilderness."

Meanwhile, for rivers like the West Fork Smiths Fork and Stillwater Fork to earn designations as scenic rivers more development like roads are allowed, officials said.

The law also provides protection for rivers where development is highly visible. Shoreline buildings are allowed in recreational river areas.

But Congress or Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne must confirm any rivers the program protects.

"Factors that are oftentimes most pertinent are related to sustainability," Payne said.

Since 2002 the government has actively pursued protecting rivers, he said, adding that the need for a national river system was recognized in the '60s when many dams and diversions were created.

Belonging to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System means stream segments are free flowing, meaning the river flows "in a natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modification of the waterway."

The designation wouldn't restrict the public's ability to float rivers, according to U.S. Forest Service officials.

"I've done scenic rivers in other places and just love it," Summit County Commissioner Sally Elliott said.

Among the river segments in Summit County that could gain national recognition are the: Henry's Fork, West Fork Beaver Creek, Middle Fork Beaver Creek, Thompson Creek, West Fork Blacks Fork, East Fork Blacks Fork, Little East Fork, Blacks Fork, West Fork Smiths Fork, East Fork Smiths Fork, Hayden Fork, Stillwater Fork, Ostler Fork, Left, Right and East forks of the Bear River, Boundary Creek, Main Fork Weber River, Middle Fork Weber River, Beaver Creek and upper Provo River.

As part of a series of open houses scheduled to discuss the plans is a meeting in Heber on May 29 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Wasatch County Senior Center at 465 E. 1200 South.

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Feds debate protecting rivers in Summit County

Many of Utah's most prestigious streams are in Uinta Mountains

Patrick Parkinson, Of the Record staff

Scenic stretches of the Provo and Weber rivers in the Uinta Mountains may be eligible for federal protection, which means efforts to designate the streams could result in developers not being allowed to encroach on their nearly pristine bank.

The Henry's Fork, Blacks Fork, and stretches of the Weber and Provo rivers are slated for designation by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968.

"We'll be working on streams only on national forest lands," said Cathy Kahlow, Kamas district ranger in the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Currently no rivers in Utah enjoy the federal protection but most of the segments nominated in the state are situated in Summit County.

To qualify, officials ask if the river is "a great representation of a river in Utah that we want to be on a national showcase," Kahlow explained.

Among aims of the program are protecting rivers from development related to mining and timber harvesting and preserving water quality.

"The wild and scenic rivers are a very important topic," said Steve Ryberg, the U.S. Forest Service's Evanston District ranger.

Qualifying for protection means the streams have "outstanding remarkable values," he said.

"Could it flow without impediment, either dams or diversions or so forth?" asked Val Payne, who helps Gov. Jon Huntsman Jr. determine how state lands are used.

The program classifies river segments based on their "wild, scenic or recreational" values.

Wild rivers have very little evidence of any development with access only via trails, officials say.

"Wild would have no mining," Kahlow said.

Among river segments in Summit County that are candidates for wild designations are the Henry's Fork, Thompson Creek, East Fork Blacks Fork, Ostler Creek, Boundary Creek and the Middle Fork of the Weber River.

"It's too bad that the public gets plugged in [late]," said Dick Carter, coordinator of the High Uintas Preservation Council, about U.S. Forest Service officials meeting last week with commissioners.

But he praised the government's recommendations.

"The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is critical," Carter said. "Our primary concern is to protect those wild and scenic rivers at the outset, that are outside designated wilderness."

Meanwhile, for rivers like the West Fork Smiths Fork and Stillwater Fork to earn designations as scenic rivers more development like roads are allowed, officials said.

The law also provides protection for rivers where development is highly visible. Shoreline buildings are allowed in recreational river areas.

But Congress or Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne must confirm any rivers the program protects.

"Factors that are oftentimes most pertinent are related to sustainability," Payne said.

Since 2002 the government has actively pursued protecting rivers, he said, adding that the need for a national river system was recognized in the '60s when many dams and diversions were created.

Belonging to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System means stream segments are free flowing, meaning the river flows "in a natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modification of the waterway."

The designation wouldn't restrict the public's ability to float rivers, according to U.S. Forest Service officials.

"I've done scenic rivers in other places and just love it," Summit County Commissioner Sally Elliott said.

Among the river segments in Summit County that could gain national recognition are the: Henry's Fork, West Fork Beaver Creek, Middle Fork Beaver Creek, Thompson Creek, West Fork Blacks Fork, East Fork Blacks Fork, Little East Fork, Blacks Fork, West Fork Smiths Fork, East Fork Smiths Fork, Hayden Fork, Stillwater Fork, Ostler Fork, Left, Right and East forks of the Bear River, Boundary Creek, Main Fork Weber River, Middle Fork Weber River, Beaver Creek and upper Provo River.

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Water report

Expect longer and drier droughts

Population growth and climate change are factors

By Judy Fahys
The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:04/18/2007 04:57:41 AM MDT

Expect longer, more widespread droughts, Utah.

And, as you look for ways to cope with dry patches, be sure to factor in a doubling of the population and the likely impacts of climate change.

That's the message behind a landmark report released Tuesday by state water planners, who took an in-depth look backward and forward in sizing up a natural disaster that Utah should count on grappling with again and again.

Todd Stonely, a state water planner who helped develop the report, said he was most struck by the fact that droughts in modern times have not been quite as severe as they were in the previous 2,000 years. An eye-opener for him: The average drought in the 110 years that climate has been measured in the state was 6.8 years, compared with an average of 10.9 years for droughts seen in tree-ring records from the past 20 centuries.

While water managers have developed a collection of strategies to cope with droughts, he said, two factors would make future decade-long droughts more harsh than those of earlier times: population growth and climate change.

"If we went through something like that now, we would go through some pretty significant trials," he said.

The report comes as Utah grapples with a shockingly poor water year, with snowpack at the end of March as low as 2 percent of normal in the southeastern part of the state and no major drainage in Utah with more than half of its normal snowpack.

At more than 100 pages, "Drought In Utah: Learning from the Past-Preparing for the Future," is rich with interesting observations about water trends. Geared primarily toward water providers, such as conservancy districts, it offers relatively few solutions - just three pages of suggestions.

The main conclusion: Water managers need to have solid, multi-faceted plans to provide water for both culinary and agriculture use - which takes up about 81 percent of the state's water supplies - during the long, dry times ahead.

Brian McInerney, a hydrologist with the National Weather Service's Salt Lake City Office, says the report raises many questions about Utah's water.

"Our population is growing and we have finite resources," he said. "How do we deal with that? How are we going to adapt? There are a lot of unknowns."

One is, with signs that global warming is accelerating, and with predictions that temperatures will increase between 4 and 9 degrees Fahrenheit in North America by the end of the century, it's unclear what that means for snowpack in the West. Climate models are not clear now on whether the West can expect less water or more.

More water would make managing Utah's supply easier during drought periods. But there is no guarantee that's the scenario to expect, McInerney noted.

"The big constant is conservation," he said. "We need to conserve the water we have."

Stephanie Duer, water conservation coordinator for Salt Lake City, pointed out that water managers have been dealing with drought forever in Utah. It's important for each community not only to plan but also to adopt strategies that will work for their individual circumstances, such as how they get their water, how they store it.

"Every community needs to address its water supply, its finite nature and its variability," she said, noting that Salt Lake City studied more than 30 model drought plans before developing its own.

Tage I. Flint, general manager of the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District, agreed that many strategies have and should be explored to cope with drought. He predicts periodic updates of the state's drought report.

"What we think we will have to address in reports of the future is how much growth we've had in the upper valleys," he said.

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Everyone will pay

Public Forum Letter
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:04/17/2007 06:38:29 PM MDT

In your April 13 article on the pipeline planned to run from Lake Powell to St. George, the Washington County Water Conservancy director expressed doubt that the pipeline would be included in the pending congressional proposal for the county's growth.

Ron Thompson further stated that the federal government "has nothing to do with" providing for the pipeline. Actually, the federal government would be contributing quite a lot, including miles of right-of-way across public land at no charge. And the legislation introduced last year included wide-open language that gives the water conservancy district virtually unfettered access to and use of public land for "any" canals, wells, well-fields, ditches and flood-control projects.

Not to mention that the conservancy district would get 8 percent of the proceeds from sales of federal land mandated in the bill. To say the federal government has "nothing to do with" the pipeline is ludicrous.

Every U.S. citizen, through their interest in those federal lands, will pay toward unsustainable development in Washington County. Too bad we can't get in on those developer impact fees.

Janine Blaeloch
Director, Western Lands Project
Seattle, Wash.

Park City, Utah

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Developers celebrated

'America is evolving into a green culture,' the EPA chief declares in Park City

by Jay Hamburger OF THE RECORD STAFF

Sieg Wallin removed his skis midday Tuesday in the parking lot outside Deer Valley Resort's Empire lodge, out of earshot of the government officials, developers and ski-industry leaders who had gathered at the lodge, two days after Deer Valley closed for the season.

Mayor Dana Williams delivers his remarks on Tuesday outside Deer Valley Resort's Empire lodge,...

The group, which included Stephen L. Johnson, the nation's top environmental official, Gov. Jon Huntsman Jr. and Mayor Dana Williams, celebrated the Montage's ambitions to be a green-friendly building, one that could be a model for like-minded developers.

For Wallin, who hiked 90 minutes Tuesday to the top of the ridge between Deer Valley and Park City Mountain Resort before skiing, in the earn-your-turns fashion, one run, the Montage will be fine where the developers plan to build, just outside the Empire lodge.

The spot, he says, is already disturbed with the Empire lodge nearby and the Montage developers do not plan to sprawl the project through what is seen as one of Park City's most scenic places but a location that was heavily used during the silver-mining heyday, leaving the developers to clean up the site.

"It's not spreading. If they keep it clustered, I don't see it as being too bad," Wallin, who lives in Silver Creek, says as he credits Deer Valley officials for preserving as best they can the resort's environmental image. "They're working hard to keep it as pristine as possible."

Wallin did not join the group on Tuesday, made mostly of people who have business or regulatory interests in the Montage, which is envisioned as a tony hotel on the slopes of Deer Valley. A lineup of speakers poured accolades on the developers and what they described as an exceptional relationship between the parties.

The Montage will be the first ever project constructed under the auspices of an EPA program that rewards developers for building in a green-friendly manner. In the Montage's case, the developers will be relieved of future EPA action in exchange for the environmentally friendly blueprints.

Speakers on Tuesday were thrilled with the plans to build the Montage on an environmentally sensitive site and noted the event occurred just before Earth Day.

"Now the property can be transformed to a resort destination," Jeff Mongan, an executive with The Athens Group, the Phoenix-based developer of the Montage, said, confident that luxury and green-building practices are compatible.

Some of the environmentally friendly features the developers tout include conserving 2,800 acres of open space, a concession they made during negotiations with City Hall before the Montage was approved, purchasing wind power and building wetlands to remove heavy metals from the water. In an interview, Mongan said the wind power will provide a "substantial amount of our energy."

The appearance of Johnson, the administrator of the EPA, was a rare visit to Park City in the post-Winter Olympic era by a high-ranking official from the federal government. A security detail followed him and he

left before most of the crowd.

"America is evolving into a green culture," Johnson said, claiming that corporations are finding green-friendly practices are profitable, describing the Montage as a "shining example" for environmentally sensitive projects and calling the Montage's plans an "impressive array" of green designs.

The developers envision the Montage as one of the nation's top slopeside properties and it will anchor Empire Pass, the ritzy, ski-in, ski-out development that was bitterly disputed between City Hall, a previous development team and Parkites worried that the project, then known as Flagstaff, would ruin Empire Canyon, the privately held land between Old Town and Deer Valley.

Through much of the 1990s, the sides battled, with Williams, then the leader of development watchdog Citizens Allied for Responsible Growth, coming to political prominence during that era.

In his remarks on Tuesday, Williams spoke of 15 years of battles about Empire Pass and called the Montage's plans "another bonus and a buy-in" for the idea of building in a green manner.

Williams has made the idea of 'sustainability,' or using a variety of programs and processes to reduce a community's stress on the environment, a hallmark of his administration and the Montage is one of the notable examples of the theory.

Afterward, the mayor said he "certainly was torn" about the Montage since he led the opposition in the 1990s to the overall Empire Pass development. But Williams said other bonuses the Montage brings include more restricted affordable housing, widened transit and an economic boost.

"I think there is a bit of dichotomy here in terms of this certainly has an impact on the environment," he admitted in an interview as he added that he was proud to appear with the others given the site's mining-era history. "It's not like we lost a pristine area in the mountains."

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Deseret Morning News, Saturday, April 14, 2007

New water development era

Deseret Morning News editorial

It's premature to comment on the details of a proposal that would pump 165,000 acre-feet of water from Flaming Gorge Reservoir and deliver it to the Denver area by pipeline. The 400-mile pipeline could cost at least $4 billion, according to news reports.

Unlike previous discussions about Colorado using its water allotment in the reservoir, which is controlled by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, this plan has stirred serious discussions about future water needs in the West and the consequences of states using their allotments, which are determined under interstate compact.

Mostly, this discussion is a wake-up call for state and local officials, who will be responsible for future water development. The days of large-scale federally funded water projects are over. As the Western states eye explosive population growth in the coming decades, planning for future water ought to happen now.

This proposal comes as state and Washington County officials have initiated preliminary engineering and environmental studies for a 120-mile pipeline from Lake Powell — just above Glen Canyon Dam — to deliver water to Hollow Reservoir near Hurricane. Washington County is one of the fastest growing counties in the nation. The project, estimated to cost $500 million, could begin to deliver water from Lake Powell by 2020. This would be a publicly funded project.

The Flaming Gorge project is unique in that its backer, Aaron Million of Fort Collins, Colo., envisions that it will be privately funded. This, too, may portend the future of Western water development. Instead of paying for water development through property taxes, water development conceivably could be paid up front by private investors. This already has happened with other forms of public infrastructure, such as toll roads.

Million's proposal is evidence that Westerners have begun to think outside the box when it comes to future development of water. It's unclear, at this point, if Million's approach is the best option. But it's an indication, now that federal funds for large-scale water development projects are scarce, that the West will need to handle these matters far differently than in the past.

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Potential fallout of canyon-linking tunnels must come to light

Gale Dick
Salt Lake Tribune

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A bombshell burst last October when news was leaked of a meeting of the "25 most influential people in government, tourism and the ski industry" to discuss the possibility of building tunnels for cars that would connect Alta to Brighton and Brighton to Park City.

The initial list of the 25 most influential didn't include any representative of the Salt Lake City's water department, the U.S. Forest Service or any environmental group. A few of these excluded ones have since gained limited access.

The thunder from that blast is still reverberating and a nervous watchfulness has set in among citizens along the Wasatch Front in the Salt Lake Valley.

Other meetings have followed that initial meeting and the main focus of the discussions seems to be aimed at increasing the number of skiers and summer visitors using tunnels. Watershed, mass transit, carrying capacity and wildlife barely get a mention.

Unquestionably, it is urgent and essential to plan for the problems that are already beginning to overwhelm the Wasatch as the population of Utah rapidly grows. The 25-most-influential committee is responding to this need.

But is this committee, as it is presently constituted and aimed, the right group to do this job? The answer: a resounding *no*! The committee is heavily stacked with people that stand to make money from the outcome.

The Wasatch Mountains are not a commodity to be bought and sold. Most of the range near Salt Lake City is public land managed by the Forest Service, Salt Lake City and Salt Lake County. Because of the Wasatch Mountains' role as a watershed for the Salt Lake Valley, as a wildlife habitat and as a treasured outdoor resource next to the valley, there are many stakeholders beyond the restricted group of the 25 most influential.

The agencies responsible for managing these lands must play a central role in planning for the future and so must the public. Existing master plans and ordinances can show the way. The Salt Lake County Canyons Master Plan adopted in 1989 must be brought up to date.

Citizens must remain alert to top-down maneuvers that co-opt public lands. Remember the infamous land exchange that allowed Snowbasin to grab Forest Service lands in the name of the Winter Olympics, bypassing public process and land management procedures.

The 25-most-influential committee seeks ways of getting more and more people into the mountains, leading to degradation of the land and a diminished experience for all. Planning for the future must protect watershed, wildlife habitat and reduce traffic. The carrying capacity of these fragile mountain lands must be studied. The committee of 25 has started with a desired outcome in mind and concocted a justification for it.

The Wasatch Mountains - so beautiful, so available and so tempting to developers - have long been and will long remain a battleground of conflicting interests with developers often in possession of weapons of mass destruction, so to speak.

The Wasatch must not be urbanized. Traffic problems must be faced and not made worse by making it possible for an ever-higher density of private vehicles in these canyons. Canyon-linking tunnels have been considered often in the past and rejected for good reasons. What contribution could such tunnels make to protecting and preserving the Wasatch? Would they dump toxic water into our water supply? Would they divert water away from the Salt Lake watershed?

These and a host of other questions need to be discussed openly by an inclusive group of stakeholders. Start by studying the problems, not by deciding what the solution should look like. Open the doors, 25-most-influential folks!

---

* GALE DICK is president of Save Our Canyons.

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Debate bubbles up over plan for a Lake Powell pipeline

Growth may depend upon it; opponents fear for environment

By Mark Havnes
The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:04/13/2007 12:53:15 AM MDT

CEDAR CITY - Mark Twain was right when he visited the West and mused that "whiskey is for drinking; water is for fighting."

Just look at the brouhaha bubbling over the proposed $800 million Lake Powell pipeline.

Water managers and local officials maintain booming southwestern Utah will thirst for that water - and sooner than many think.

"At current growth needs, we'll need the pipeline by 2020," Ron Thompson, director of the Washington County Conservancy District, told the Cedar City Area Chamber of Commerce on Thursday.

But environmentalists and others argue the 20-inch pipeline - funneling water 120 miles from Lake Powell in south-central Utah to Sand Hollow Reservoir in the state's southwest corner - will scar the public landscape and fuel growth that can't and shouldn't be sustained.

Officials with VisionDixie who've expressed skeptism of the project in the past did not return phone calls.

Either way, Thompson said, growth is coming, and securing water is the most crucial factor in supporting it.

If the pipeline is built, ThompÂson said it probably would be paid for by newcomers.

The Washington County cities that have agreed to buy that water plan to impose a $4,500 impact fee on new homes - with that tab rising 5 percent a year for 30 years.

That would bring in the $800 million needed for the project. In addition, Thompson said, construction and operating costs could be offset by pipeline-generated hydropower.

An engineering firm is conducting preliminary studies on the proposal, which is receiving $7 million a year from the state. That data will be turned over to the Bureau of Land Management to complete environmental studies.

Thompson said an acre-foot of water from the project would be worth about $5,000 - a competitive price in a county where the same amount of water in some locations goes for $40,000.

When asked if the pipeline would be included in the latest version of the Washington County land-use plan - a measure requiring congressional approval - Thompson said he doubted it.

"The federal government has nothing to do with this," he said. "We're not planning on using federal funds."

Scott Wilson, Central Iron County Water Conservancy District director, warned that Iron County's future is bleak unless it also can tap into the pipeline project and pump 36,000 acre-feet of water.

Right now, Iron County's aquifers are being drained faster than they can be replenished.

Wilson said state water officials have told him that of the five aquifers in the most trouble in Utah, three are in Iron County.

"It's scary," Wilson said. "We have to move forward with vision now."

He said Iron County has applied for water rights in the desert west of Cedar City for relief. But Beaver and Millard counties object. They also are eyeing that area for more water.

Kane County is expected to receive 10,000 acre-feet of water from the pipeline, which roughly would follow U.S. Highway 89 from Lake Powell to Sand Hollow, located 10 miles east of St. George.

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deseretnews.com

Deseret Morning News, Friday, April 13, 2007

A Flaming Gorge pipeline?

Project would pump water to Denver area

By Joe Bauman
Deseret Morning News

A Colorado businessman is promoting a project under which 165,000 acre-feet of water would be pumped yearly from Flaming Gorge Reservoir and piped to the Denver area.

The idea of Aaron Million, Fort Collins, has received largely favorable reactions from several federal and state officials.

Flaming Gorge Reservoir, operated by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, sprawls across the Utah-Wyoming border, backed up behind the dam near Dutch John, Daggett County. Flaming George National Recreation Area encompasses more than 207,000 acres, about equally divided between the two states.

Currently, the dam holds back more than 3 million acre-feet of water from the Green River system, according to the bureau.

News reports from Colorado peg the project's cost at $4 billion, much of it for a 400-mile pipeline. Exact locations of the project's features have not been announced, with discussions continuing about the details.

At one point, project supporters said they were interested in more than 400,000 acre-feet from the reservoir, but the number has dropped. One official said the latest estimate is for 165,000 acre-feet.

"There's a significant need for water on the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains from Fort Collins to Colorado Springs," said Don Ostler, executive director of the Upper Colorado River Commission, based in Salt Lake City.

Proposals to use Colorado's water allotment from the area have been around for years, he said. "There were lots of problems with all of them, very substantial problems, whether they be political problems or environmental problems." Depleting the Colorado River in the western slope is among the difficulties of these plans.

"Mr. Million has begun planning for a project that would apparently avoid much of that," he said. He "has come up with a proposal to take water out of the Green River essentially, out of Flaming Gorge. This seems to avoid a lot of environmental issues," Ostler said.

"It has its own set of issues that people are just beginning to look at, in terms of how the Upper Basin shares the water, where they take it, and what that means."

Deseret Morning News Graphic

Million has been working with the Bureau of Reclamation to obtain a contract to use water stored in the reservoir. "And of course the water would be charged to the state of Colorado," which has an allotment under interstate compact.

The pipeline's water might be withdrawn from a site outside the state of Colorado, but Ostler said that is allowed under the Law of the River. If the pipeline runs through Wyoming, that state might be able to use some of the water, he said, and "that water would be charged to Wyoming."

"Right now this project is just in the feasibility stage," Ostler added.

It would be privately funded, which would make it unusual or unique among large Western water projects.

"It raises lots of political questions with regards to the people who would buy the water," he said. "And there are just a lot of angles and twists that need to be looked at."

The project's latest proposal, about 165,000 acre-feet, might be the most Flaming Gorge could provide, "given all the other uses the reservoir has to support," he added.

Other concerns are whether drawing down the reservoir would impact the operation of the dam, including power generation. But Ostler does not believe the project would have dire environmental impacts such as killing endangered fish of the Green River.

One of the reservoir's purposes is to "provide storage so people could use the water." It also needs to supply water for endangered fish and generate power, he added.

Jerry Olds, Utah's state engineer, said the project is only a proposal so far and that its backers have not yet filed applications for water.

What would Utah's reaction be if the project does move forward? "It depends on the approach that they decide to take," he said.

If the water were diverted in Utah, the project would need a Utah water right and the state would go through a review. If it's taken out elsewhere, the state's permission may not be needed.

"Each state is entitled to use their (water) apportionment under the Colorado River Compact," he said.

The project potentially could affect Utah's water interests, however. As Colorado developed part of its entitlement, "it would impact us," he said.

"But, again, I think we would try and work" with Colorado officials. The states of Utah, Wyoming and Colorado are committed to the recovery of endangered fish, he said.

"It will be a very expensive project," Olds said. "I think there's some uncertainty at this point just as to the size of the project, the amount of water, and I think they're trying to work with those issues."

Dennis J. Strong, director of the Utah Division of Water Resources, said he has met a couple of times with Million and his supporters. "I think they're going about it appropriately," contacting people to discuss the ideas, he said.

The plan is to be discussed at the meeting of the Upper Colorado River Commission in June, according to Strong.

Meanwhile, Utah officials have asked the Bureau of Reclamation to examine potential impacts of the project.

"We're concerned with what happens under a full-development scenario, that's when Wyoming and Utah are using their full Colorado River allotment."

Flaming Gorge reservoir's level would drop, but the reservoir was built to allow managers to handle a fluctuating water supply. What Utah is concerned about, he said, is meeting the rights of the state's water users.

If the project won't impact Utah water users, Strong added, "we support Colorado."

E-mail: bau@desnews.com

Friday, April 13, 2007

North Utah County water association may form soon

CALEB WARNOCK - Daily Herald

In a sign that Utah's water wars are intensifying, north Utah County mayors are organizing to protect underground water supplies -- and fend off attempts by Salt Lake County entities to pipe local water over the county line.

Cities here are circulating an interlocal agreement that asks each north county city to sign on to the new North Utah County Water Replenishment Association. So far Lehi, American Fork, Pleasant Grove, Alpine, Highland, Lindon and Cedar Hills have joined. Other cities are expected to follow suit shortly.

As part of the agreement, the cities will begin work on a plan to allow unused city-owned spring water run-off to simply soak into the ground in an attempt to recharge the underground aquifer. This would likely happen at the gravel flats at the mouth of American Fork Canyon, and perhaps other locations.

Highland Mayor Jay Franson, who organized the effort, said as water supplies become harder and harder to come by, cities must store as much water as possible in the underground aquifer as a reservoir for future use.

"We all, in the north end of the county, share a common aquifer," he said. "The water comes from the mountains and has been there a long time. In years of plenty you can recharge some water and the aquifer acts as another reservoir in a period of dry years. If we do this collectively, the water will be available collectively when everyone needs it.

"I strongly believe in collaborative effort. We all need drinking water and we ought to be working together on it."

The association also would "be the collective voice concerning issues that affect ground water supplies, such as the intent of other entities to drill major wells in northern Utah County for use in other counties," according to a version of the agreement passed in Cedar Hills.

More than 1,300 residents of Highland, Lehi and Alpine have filed protests with the state Engineer's Office over a water proposal. In December, Lehi and Highland mailed thousands of letters

asking residents to send formal protests to the state engineer calling for a halt to the proposal that would allow the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District and East Jordan Irrigation Company -- both based in Salt Lake County -- to drill six wells in north Utah County. If allowed, the proposal would "drastically affect our ability to use and obtain water from that ground water strata," Lehi city engineer Lorin Powell has said.

When asked about the newly formed association, Cedar Hills Mayor Mike McGee said if the piping proposal is successful, the effort to replenish the aquifer won't be necessary because there will not be enough water left.

The plan to let water soak into the ground could also keep the water from running into Utah Lake, where local cities cannot use it because water rights in the lake are owned mostly by Salt Lake County interests, said both McGee and Lehi Mayor Howard Johnson.

A study would need to be done of how, when and where such an aquifer recharge plan could happen, Franson said. The association is partly being formed so that there is an official entity to apply for federal and state grant money for the project. The study also would need to discover whether anyone's water rights would be violated by the recharge plan.

Caleb Warnock can be reached at 443-3263 or cwarnock@heraldextra.com.

This story appeared in The Daily Herald on page A1.

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Pollution problem

Public Forum Letter
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:04/10/2007 06:25:58 PM MDT

Recently *The Tribune* printed front-page stories about serious air pollution in Utah and delightful population growth in Utah.

The two are connected. If we double the number of people living in any of our semi-closed valleys, then to prevent the air from getting worse we must reduce the emissions per person by a factor of two. To improve our air while we double the population, we must reduce emissions per person by more than a factor of two.

All the easy-to-control pollution sources are now controlled, e.g. Kennecott, a major emitter in the 1960s, a very minor one now. The next emission-per-person reduction by a factor of two will be more expensive and difficult than the last one.

Noel de Nevers
Salt Lake City

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Health Department to handle oil spills - formally

The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:04/11/2007 01:49:49 AM MDT

PROVO - The next time a truck overturns and spills petroleum in Utah County, the county's Health Department, not the state's Department of Environmental Quality, will be in charge. Of course, that's been the practice for years, but now there's a formal agreement to back it up.

On Tuesday, Utah County commissioners authorized the health department's chief, Joseph Miner, to sign a memorandum of understanding with the state Division of Water Quality that establishes a policy for spill response.

Under the policy, Miner and his staff will oversee any reported transportation-related petroleum spills in Utah County that present a direct and immediate threat to public health or the environment.

"If there is something that is beyond our ability to advise, than the Division of Water Quality takes charge," Miner said. "It's just a way to put in writing what policy we actually follow." The state will handle all other petroleum releases, such as spills from above-ground storage tanks, tanks in basements or tunnels and noncommercial residential and farm fuel tank spills.

The Division of Water Quality, an agency within the state's Department of Environmental Quality, also will take over when any petroleum spill that immediately affects groundwater or surface water.

Miner said a fuel spill occurs in Utah County every few weeks, but most of them are small - less than 50 gallons.

- Todd Hollingshead

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Rising temps may leave Utah without enough snowpack to meet water needs

By Judy Fahys
The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:04/07/2007 01:35:49 AM MDT

Imagine a Utah with skimpy winters; springs punctuated with more and more violent flash floods; longer, hotter summers; and a wildfire season that lasts spring to fall.

That's the scenario shaping up for the Intermountain West, according to a group of international climate scientists that released its latest report Friday.

Rob Gillies, director of the Utah Climate Center, said the findings give a clearer picture of what to expect and confirm trends scientists are already seeing.

"The exact details are not yet clear, but such shifts in regional climate will undoubtedly affect many ecosystems that support us as well as critical water resources we depend upon," he said.

"Since climate is a complex interconnected system, [the climate shift] may also deliver other surprising responses to the 'big experiment' [on global warming] that the human race is currently conducting."

Zeroing in on the changes worldwide, region by region, lies at the heart of the latest report. Called "Climate Change 2007: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability," it is the second in a series of four promised by an international panel of scientists. They pulled together hundreds of studies, pored over their conclusions for months and haggled over the final wording until minutes before releasing it Friday.

The latest report offers little for roughly half of Utahns who, when polled by *The Salt Lake Tribune* last fall, said they doubted global warming. Instead, it delivers more particulars for the other half of Utahns who believe that climate change is under way, and it describes how the effects of climate change are more severe and coming faster than previously understood.

Kathleen Miller, a scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in Boulder, Colo., and lead author on the chapter dedicated to water resources, said the American West can expect more drought, heat waves, flash flooding and wildfire - all tied to an overall temperature increase of between 4 and 9 degrees Fahrenheit over the next century.

She suggested that the unusually low March snowfall, the surprisingly warm temperatures and the troubling early melt-off might well be "a sneak peek of what our future is going to look like."

"We can show you now," she said. "It's happening in our own backyards. Right here. Right now."

The implications are many - and troubling, Miller added. Warming means less water. Flooding means reservoirs fill too quickly with silt and, in turn, water has less oxygen and a greater likelihood of becoming choked with algae.

Other parts of the report suggest the health effects on humans will be experienced everywhere, including the West. Hotter summertime temperatures are bound to amplify ozone pollution, especially in urbanized areas, such as the Wasatch Front, that are heavily paved over.

Allergy sufferers should expect pollen counts to climb. High-elevation areas may see mosquito populations explode, and hantavirus may spread.

Susanne Moser, an NCAR scientist who contributed to the report's chapter on coastal systems, said people already are being forced to cope with the changes that are under way.

"No amount of mitigation of climate change will do anything about that," she said. "There are already a set of impacts we are going to experience."

At the same time, there are many ways to mitigate or minimize the increase in the pollution blamed for climate change - primarily the waste gases produced by fossil fuels like gasoline and coal.

Government could do more, for instance, by imposing tougher building standards, she said. Homes and businesses in the West generally do a poor job of keeping cold out in the winter and maintaining cool indoor temperatures in the summer.

Utah, in particular, would be a great place to tap into solar energy, she added.

"Our current track record is not so good," Moser said. "We tend not to be so proactive, but that could change."

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Interest in addressing climate change has been mounting in Utah. Gov. Jon Huntsman Jr., a Republican, has brought together industry, environmentalists and regulators in his Blue Ribbon Advisory Council on Climate Change.

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"There has been a distinct and dramatic increase in the severity of the consequences [of global warming] both in terms of what already has occurred and what is likely to occur in the future," he said. "It's a frustrating situation made so even more by the utter neglect of the U.S. government in fairly reversing the trend of disastrous consequences of global warming."

fahys@sltrib.com

Effects

Snow/skiing: Scientists project shrinking snow seasons. Life won't be the same for farmers, wildlife and skiers, in particular.

Flash flooding: Fiercer, earlier spring runoff may lead to landslides and force states like Utah to limit building in flood-prone areas.

Heat waves: With nature's refrigeration - snowpack - gone awry, dry states lose heat relief from evaporation and keeping cool gets harder.

Wildfire: Drier soil means more wildfires and longer seasons when the Western plant life is tinder dry.

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Growth and water

Public Forum Letter
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:04/09/2007 07:14:19 PM MDT

With dismay I read that St. George is now the "U.S. Growth Capital" (*Tribune*, April 5). Any population or business growth in Utah that surpasses another state's is treated as though we were winning a contest with the rest of the country. Actually, we are losing, and in a big way.

Go to the April 4 *New York Times* in which the lead story on Page 1 is the dearth of water in the West. There is simply not enough water to meet our present needs, let alone huge population growth in Utah and Nevada. When are our leaders going to pull their heads out of the sand and realize that there needs to be as little growth as possible if we are to continue to drink and bathe?

As a ninth grader pointed out in the April 5 Public Forum, "Utah is an oligarchy run by wealthy, white Republicans." In their relentless quest to accumulate more wealth, they care not at all about the quality of life for the rest of us. They totally ignore rural Utah, which will disappear in the "Water Wars" between Utah and Nevada.

We can start to reverse this trend, as letter writer Maggie Broughton pointed out, by electing persons to office from two political parties to share power and decide what is really best for our state.

Anne White
Salt Lake City

deseretnews.com

Deseret Morning News, Tuesday, April 10, 2007

Plan smart for growth

Deseret Morning News editorial

It's not at all surprising that Washington County is a hot property, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. It continues to be the nation's fastest growing metropolitan area, with a 2006 population of 126,312. Perhaps more eye popping is the area's growth rate — 40 percent over six years.

St. George, according to the financial press, is one of the best places in the nation to retire. Its temperate climate, easy access to national parks and scenic beauty make it a highly attractive destination. The winters are mild and there are golf courses a plenty. What's not to like?

But explosive growth brings steep challenges. The community's infrastructure must keep pace with demands. While the national press often highlights amenities that render St. George attractive to retirees, Washington County needs housing stock that accommodates workers.

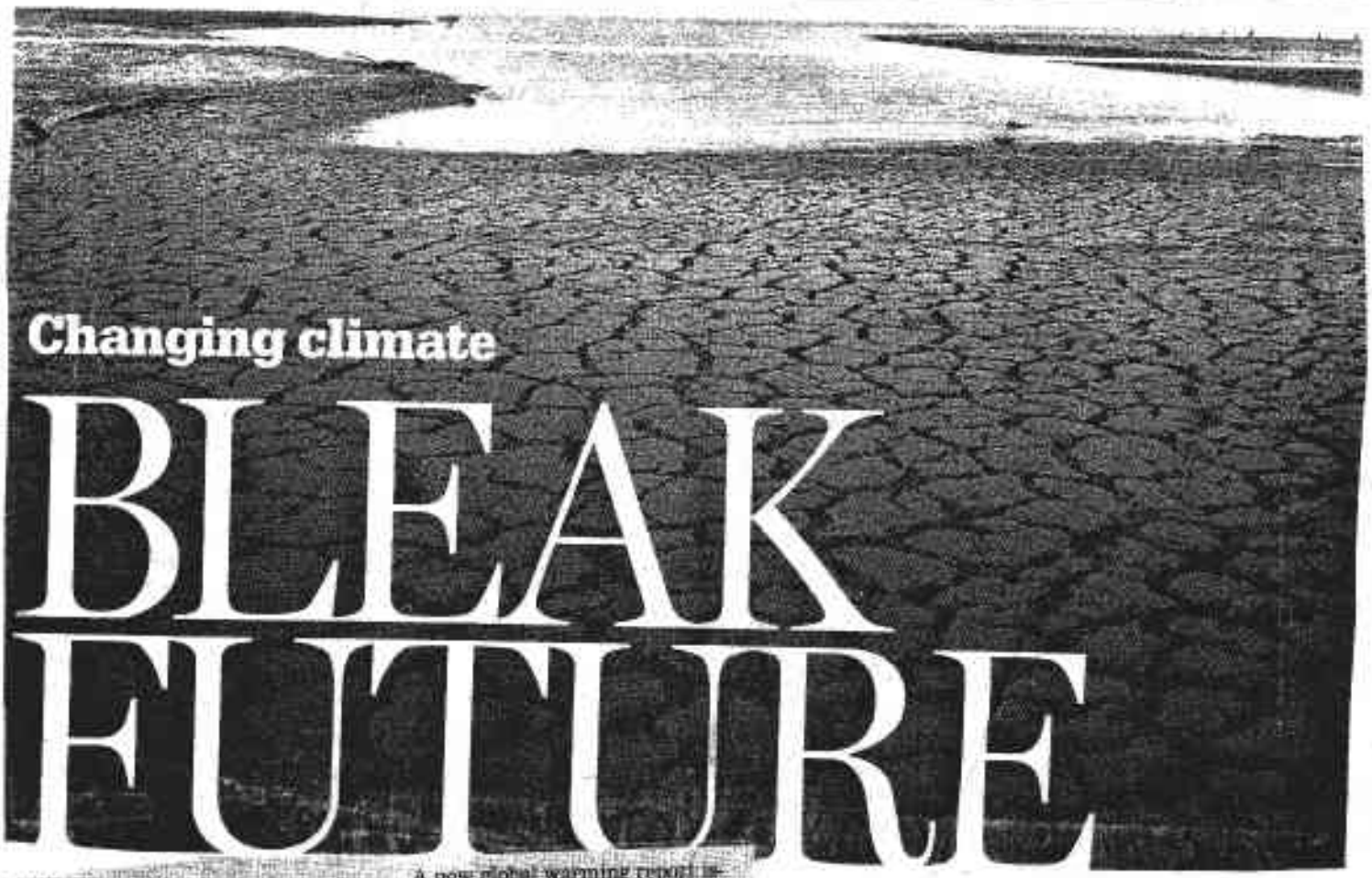
None of this will happen by accident. Community leaders are well aware of the challenges posed by explosive growth. They have been participating in a public process called Vision Dixie, led by Envision Utah and supported financially by the Nature Conservancy Group, Washington County and the State Institutional Trust Lands Administration. The outcome of this public process is not binding, but it provides county leaders with input on how Washington County residents want their communities to grow. More meetings are scheduled later this month and in May, when the county's potential growth scenarios will be released for public review.

Meanwhile, water managers are attempting to develop new water resources to meet future needs. Washington County's growth is so great that water officials predict water supplies could "run out" by the year 2020 unless the state constructs the Lake Powell pipeline.

The overlay to these scenarios would be the reintroduction of the Washington County Growth and Conservation Act, co-sponsored by Sen. Robert Bennett, R-Utah and Rep. Jim Matheson, D-Utah. The bill would set aside much-needed utility and transportation corridors, protect wilderness and designate the state's first Wild and Scenic River. It also would create recreational opportunities and help fund conservation projects. Critics say the bill would further fuel development in Washington County and put up for sale hundreds of thousands of acres of public lands.

The bill was heard in committee in the previous Congress, but it was not considered by the full House or Senate, effectively killing it. At this point, its prospects in a Democratic controlled Congress may be bleak.

But credit Bennett and Matheson for working together on this issue, which, at a minimum, has fostered the local visioning process. Most leaders will concede that further growth in Washington County is inevitable. But the state and communities can make deliberate choices in mapping out a future that preserves the area's natural assets but addresses necessary infrastructure development to accommodate this profound increase in population growth.



Changing climate

BLEAK FUTURE

GLOBALLY »

U.N. report offers a doomsday forecast; some scientists say it is not harsh enough

By Alan Zarembo and Thomas H. Maugh II
Los Angeles Times

A new global warming report issued Friday by the United Nations paints a near-apocalyptic vision of Earth's future: more than a billion people in need of water, food shortages in Africa, a planetary landscape ravaged by floods and millions of species sentenced to extinction.

But despite the harshness of its vision, the report was criticized by scientists who said its findings were watered down at the last minute by government bureaucrats seeking to deflect calls for action.

"The science got hijacked by the political bureaucrats at the late stage of the game," said John Walsh, a climate expert at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, who helped write a chapter on the polar regions.

Even in its softened form, the report outlined a range of devastating effects that will strike all regions of the world and all levels of society. Those without resources to adapt to the changes will suffer the greatest effects, according to the study from the Intergovernmental Panel on

Flash flooding: Fiercer, earlier spring runoff may lead to landslides and force states like Utah to limit building in flood-prone areas.

Heat waves: With nature's refrigeration – snowpack – gone awry, dry states lose heat relief from evaporation and keeping cool gets harder.

"It's a frustrating situation made so even more by the utter neglect of the U.S. government in fairly reversing the trend of disastrous consequences of global warming." – SLC Mayor Rocky Anderson

LOCALLY »

Rising temps may leave Utah without enough snowpack to meet water needs

By Judy Fahys
The Salt Lake Tribune

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Effect of rising temperatures

As global temperatures rise, the environment would be subject to change, some of which would have far-reaching effects.

Temperature increase	Possible effect
+9°	**Global economic losses** of up to 5 percent GDP **Rising sea level** of 13 to 20 feet because of melting in Greenland and west Antarctic ice sheets
+7.2°	**Global food** production decreases **Extinction** of more than 40 percent of species **Mostly negative effects** on ecosystem goods and services
+5.4°	**Widespread coral mortality** **Flood risk** increases for millions more people every year **Substantial burden** on health services
+3.6°	**Increased risk of extinction** for up to one-third of known species **Most coral bleached** **Increasing mortality** from heat waves, floods and droughts
+1.8° (Earth's temp. in 2011)	**Decreasing water** availability, increasing drought in many regions **Increasing wildfire risk**, increased flood and storm damage **Increasing burden** from malnutrition, diarrheal, cardio-respiratory and infectious diseases

Source: IPCC Fourth Assessment Report, Working Group III Summary for Policymakers

The Salt Lake Tribune

More resources on climate change

- You can view an executive summary on the latest report at **www.ipcc.ch.**
- A good region-by-region summary is available at **www.ipccinfo.com.**
- You can find The Salt Lake Tribune's series on climate change in Utah at **www.sltrib.com.**
- More information is available at the Utah Climate Center, **climate.usurf.usu.edu**, and the University of Utah's Meteorology Department, **www.met.utah.edu.**

organizing city leaders around the world. The Democrat also has been a frequent critic of the Bush administration, saying it has failed to lead the fight against climate change. His assessment of the most recent report was grim.

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Hearing slated on rules for the Colorado River

The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:04/04/2007 01:15:14 AM MDT

The Bureau of Reclamation on Thursday will hold the third in a series of public hearings on the federal agency's draft environmental impact statement for future management ofs the Colorado River under drought conditions and water shortages.

The hearing, which will give the public a chance to comment on the draft EIS, will be held at the Salt Lake City Hilton, 255 South West Temple, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The bureau last month released the draft, which lays out four alternatives for managing future water shortages on the river.

One is based on last year's agreement forged by the seven Colorado River Basin states - Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada and California - that defines the conditions under which lower basin shortages would be declared and creates a plan for the joint management of Lake Powell and Lake Mead.

Another alternative calls for voluntary, compensated reductions in water use to minimize involuntary water shortages while a third would reduce deliveries only when there is insufficient water in Lake Mead to meet lower basin requirements.

A fourth alternative envisions storing more water in Powell and Mead by reducing deliveries and increasing shortages to benefit power companies and recreational users.

The federal environmental study comes at a time when the Colorado River Basin is experiencing yet another year of below-average water supplies.

Since 2000, reservoir levels in Powell, Mead and elsewhere dropped from nearly full to less than 60 percent of capacity.

- Joe Baird

Uintah Basin Online
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FRONTPAGE NEWS

River foam, pit leak prompt state inquiry

State environmental officials are investigating two unrelated incidents on rivers in Uintah County; one where a stinky foam was found on the Green River and the second involving the release of drilling fluid near the White River.

A leak from a natural gas well reserve pit one mile south of the White River was reported to the Bureau of Land Management on Thursday, BLM officials said in a news release Friday. The BLM was told of the leak by Enduring Resources, a Colorado-based energy exploration company.

Although the lined reserve pit is located on property managed by the Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration, it had leaked about 1,200 gallons of drilling fluid across BLM-managed land in Atchee Wash, which is about 40 miles south of Vernal.

The site is part of the company's Rock House Project, which includes plans to develop 55 natural gas wells with roads, pipelines and well pads. The project has drawn criticism from environmentalists and recreation-oriented groups, who had gathered about 33,000 comments by this past December opposing the company's plans. The opposition was organized by the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, the Natural Resources Defense Council and The Wilderness Society.

Enduring Resources Vice President Alex B. Campbell said when the leak was discovered this week, crews immediately constructed two berms in an attempt to contain the spill. They then used a vacuum truck to remove the fluid from the berms and empty the reserve pit. The fluid was stopped about one mile away from the White River, Campbell said.

Samples of the drilling fluid have been recovered for testing.

Scott Hacking, a district engineer with the state Department of Environmental Quality, was slated to make an assessment of the reserve pit spill site Friday. Hacking said all he saw was soggy ground, with no odor or foam present.

"It looked pretty innocuous," he said. "I was pleased that it hadn't hit the river, although alarmed that it had run for three miles."

Reserve pits are used to store drilling fluids during well operations. The leaking pit is a fresh water/mud system that could contain barite, a component of drilling fluid used to add weight and minimize fluid loss into fractured underground formations.

The White River enters northeastern Utah from Colorado. It empties into the Green River, which was the focus of an investigation by the state Division of Water Quality early last week after the agency received reports of foul-smelling foam on the river.

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Test results indicate the foamy, smelly substance found floating in the Sand Wash area of the Green River isn't harmful, but the testing was not done until eight days after the foaming was first reported. Sand Wash is a popular put-in or launching area for Green River rafting through Desolation Canyon.

Utah Division of Water Quality director Walt Baker said officials don't have a smoking gun for the foaming, which was spotted March 9 by a visitor at the Ouray National Wildlife Refuge in the Uintah Basin and reported to the BLM.

We don't know if it was man-caused or a naturally occurring phenomenon, Baker said.

A breakdown in communication between state agencies kept DWQ out of the loop until Monday, which made collecting samples and testing less effective, he said.

The tests conducted at the Utah Division of Laboratory Services showed no elevated concentrations of substances or chemicals that would be harmful to the ecosystem or to the public, Baker said.

We're continuing to study things and taking samples, he said.

State water-quality officials originally suspected that fluids from drilling operations in the area may have been discharged in the river, Baker said.

There are foaming agents in some of the drilling fluids they use, he said. It would be illegal to discharge those compounds into the waters of the state. They contain diesel fuel or other harmful compounds that would be bad for the environment.

Baker said there's no evidence suggesting drilling fluid was the cause of the foaming, but we haven't categorically ruled that out.

It's common for foaming to occur on the river in spring when increased runoff transports decomposing plants, leaves and algae — and the fatty acids they contain — to streams and rivers, Baker said.

Because we weren't able to be there on site, see (the foaming), capture it and test it in the field under a microscope, we may never know what caused it, he said.

By Geoff Liesik and Jared Page For the Standard

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Water conservation encouraged

By KEN PETERSON
kpeterson@thespectrum.com

ST. GEORGE - Brian Head Ski Resort boasted more than 34 inches of fresh powder Thursday and local reservoirs are full, but water conservation is still important in Southern Utah, experts say.

Snowpack is Washington County's source of water to fill reservoirs for the coming year. And with the snowpack sitting at 27 percent as of March 22, it's estimated that stream flows will be the lowest in decades, according to a recent statement released by the Washington County Water Conservancy District.

But before the less-than-normal snowpack melts into the ground to be used for local water needs, Brian Head invites everyone up to the mountain for a weekend of skiing in the more than 34 inches of new powder.

District coordinator Julie Breckenridge said it's estimated that people water 50 percent more than necessary. Already, when temperatures hit the 80s, people start watering almost every day when they ought to be watering only every five to seven days through the end of April, she said.

Cedar City Engineer Kit Wareham said it was cold and snowy in Cedar City on Thursday and he doesn't anticipate any water shortages for Cedar City that would necessitate watering restrictions above and beyond what city ordinance already provides - no watering during daylight hours.

St. George City Conservation Coordinator René Fleming said there are no plans at this time to restrict irrigation or outdoor watering. She indicated that reservoir storage for the Washington County area is currently good, following two wet years. One of the advantages of reservoirs is that they can store water during good years that can be used in years of low precipitation, she said.

People are always encouraged, however, Fleming said, to conserve and be efficient with their watering needs, only watering between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. when the sun is down and the temperature is the coolest. People should water only when the soil is

WATERING GUIDELINES

Some watering guidelines as r Breckenridge, Washington Co District Coordinator:

- **NOW THROUGH APRIL 3** seven days
- **MAY:** Water every four day
- **JUNE THROUGH AUG.:** W
- **SEPT.:** Water every five to
- **OCT.:** Water every seven t
- **NOV.:** Turnoff month - wate during the month until cold wea go dormant. People should tap plants go dormant - "kind of lik to sleep."

ON THE NET

- *For more information on wa programs, log onto wcwcd.stat link to conservation.*

dry.

Breckenridge agreed, saying, "Use a soil probe or even a screwdriver to determine if the topsoil is dry down to about one to two inches before watering."

And watering on windy days wastes water, Fleming said.

Watering restrictions for Cedar City residences could arise if the city is unable to deliver water because of equipment failure, Wareham said. He indicated that Cedar City gets most of its water from aquifers and springs.

Breckenridge said it's important for people to maintain their irrigation system and check it after every mowing to see if any of the sprinkler heads were broken when the lawn was mowed.

Starting on May 15 and until Sept. 30, Washington County, upon request, will send somebody out to test a residence's irrigation system and create a customized system schedule for them, Breckenridge said. Those who are interested should call 673-3617.

Originally published March 30, 2007

deseretnews.com

Deseret Morning News, Friday, March 30, 2007

Upscale restaurants ditching bottled water

By Michelle Locke
Associated Press

BERKELEY, Calif. — Bye-bye bottled water. Hello eau de tap. A new trend is in the pipeline, with some upscale restaurants ditching packaged H2O in the name of conservation.

The bottled water backlash, which recently spread to the venerable Chez Panisse restaurant in Berkeley, is spurred by environmental concerns over the energy used in transportation as well as the disposal of all those containers.

"We just decided this was something we had to do," said Mike Kossa-Rienzi, general manager of Chez Panisse, where owner Alice Waters has pioneered the eat local, eat fresh concept. "It just makes sense to us to not have to use all the energy and resources to bottle water in Italy and then truck it to our restaurant and then after that deal with the recycling of it."

Chez Panisse stopped serving bottled non-sparkling water last year and expects to stop serving bottled carbonated water in a few weeks, just as soon as the restaurant's new carbonator is installed, said Kossa-Rienzi, who visited a San Francisco restaurant, Incanto, to see how it made the switch some years ago.

Across the San Francisco Bay at Poggio in Sausalito, Larry Mindel has been serving filtered tap water — he has a machine that filters and carbonates — since the restaurant opened in 2003.

Environmental concerns are one factor. Another is price. Even though he could charge diners double or triple what he pays for water, he said it gives him a "stab" to pay so much — or charge others — for something that falls from the sky.

"Haven't you gone to a restaurant and they just expect you to order two or three bottles of water and it's $27 by the time you're done?" he said. "I just thought that from a consumer's point of view that they were getting shortchanged."

While lots of restaurants serve tap water, the trend of upscale places going exclusively to tap appears to be new, said Gigi Kellett, associate campaigns director for Corporate Accountability International, a Boston-based group that is campaigning against bottled water as privatizing a public resource.

Not surprisingly, the notion of giving up the bottle fizzled with the International Bottled Water Association, based in Alexandria, Va. Spokesman Stephen Kay argued the switch wouldn't have that big of a conservation impact and restricts customer choices.

On the other hand, Susan Leal, general manager of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, said the switch will let city water shine.

"They're taking a step against the, I believe, deception that's going on out there, which is that somehow bottled water is superior to tap water," Leal said.

Switching to municipal water can put a damper on profits since there's a healthy markup on bottled water — no sommelier savvy required.

Back when he banned the bottle, Mindel recalls other restaurateurs raised their eyebrows and asked if he knew what he was doing. In fact, said Mindel, he did.

"It's not like we've got bad water here. Our water's terrific," Mindel said. "I don't think we've had one single person that's said, 'Oh, can't you bring me Perrier.'"

Customer Joan Nitis certainly endorsed the no-bottle approach Wednesday as she lunched at Poggio with Anita Pira.

"I love that," she said. "Usually I don't have water in a restaurant, but here I do. It's just refreshing."

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Riverton site

Treatment plant starts up in 2010

But final report must be approved by Salt Lake County, state and EPA

By Steve Gehrke
The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:03/29/2007 01:42:35 AM MDT

The South Valley Sewer District plans to have its new wastewater-treatment facility up and running by late 2010.

The board of trustees discussed a timeline Wednesday morning that would have the cell-membrane plant ready for construction in January 2009 at a Riverton site near 13500 South and the west bank of the Jordan River. The treatment plant was approved two months ago, after the board averted a construction moratorium in the booming southern portion of Salt Lake County by acquiring needed capacity from Sandy City and approving a new plant.

The sewer district submitted its final report to Salt Lake County on Monday. Pending that approval, the report would move on to the state and then it would await a federal OK from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Denver.

The trustees are looking at ways to fast-track its proposal through the bureaucratic processes.

"I estimate it would take about 90 days to get it all accomplished, but I have no idea how long it will take to get through the EPA," said consultant's engineer Ken Spiers. "I think it'll be a rubber-stamp process."

However, Spiers said, the facility was designed to 1970s and 1980s EPA standards, which may have changed.

"But if we have county approval and state approval, there should be no problem," Spiers said.

The district currently has three interested vendors vying to design the cell-membrane plant, including US Filter, Zenon and Kubota.

General Manager Craig White said trustees will visit the top two or three vendors' sites during the second week of May and select a design on May 23. The district would then submit the site-plan application to Riverton in mid-June and complete necessary road construction for access from Bangerter Highway by the end of 2007.

The final design process will likely take a year, which Spiers said was typical to custom build a $130 million facility - but that time frame concerns at least one trustee.

"I was hoping we'd be online by the end of 2009," said Mont Evans, Riverton's former mayor. "It sounds like we're covering ourselves, so why is it taking a year to design?"

sgehrke@sltrib.com

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Las Vegas aquifer proposal

Opponents rally around groundwater study

Against plan that could dry up the Snake Valley

By Joe Baird
The Salt Lake Tribune

Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:03/27/2007 02:29:17 AM MDT

Opponents of Las Vegas' bid to take water from along the Utah-Nevada border say the first scientific peek at the proposal backs up their contention that it's a bad deal for Utah.

The U.S. Geological Survey offered a sneak preview Monday of the agency's upcoming study of groundwater resources in the Great Basin.

Ranchers, conservationists and local government officials have been eagerly awaiting the report because of what it may portend for the proposal by southern Nevada water officials to tap aquifers in the state's eastern valleys and pump it to Las Vegas via a pipeline network.

The preliminary findings: There is more groundwater in the Snake Valley - which straddles Utah and Nevada - than originally thought. But there is also apparently more water flowing between Great Basin aquifers than has been historically assumed, meaning Snake Valley could eventually be impacted by groundwater pumping in neighboring Spring Valley, and perhaps elsewhere.

"There's no water in Snake Valley to go. That's pretty evident," said Millard County Commissioner John Cooper. "The aquifers are even more connected than we thought they were. You take water out of Spring Valley, Steptoe Valley or Hamelin Valley, and it's going to come out of Snake Valley."

Kimball Goddard, director of the USGS's Nevada Water Science Center, told a gathering of water officials, geologists and local and state government leaders in Salt Lake City that a draft of the Basin and Range Carbonate Aquifer System Study is essentially finished and now undergoing peer review. It is scheduled to be released around June 1.

Based upon the preliminary results, Goddard said that Snake Valley probably holds just over 130,000 acre-feet of groundwater underneath - an acre-foot being the amount of water it takes to cover an acre of land with one foot of water, or the amount a family of four typically consumes in a year.

That is more than the 100,000 acre-feet that previous studies estimated was under Snake Valley. But Goddard also said that groundwater flows, which move north into Snake Valley from Spring, Steptoe and Hamelin valleys may account for as much as half of that supply.

"That's more than we previously thought," he said, emphasizing that the uncertainty ranges in estimating such trans-basin flows "is pretty high."

But Goddard did say that the development of water resources in Spring Valley, and perhaps elsewhere, will likely impact Snake Valley's water table, though such effects might not be felt for decades.

Mark Ward, an attorney for the Utah Association of Counties, says that such information should compel Utah to widen the scope of its discussions with Nevada as it negotiates a water-sharing agreement with its neighbor.

But Mike Styler, director of the Department of Natural Resources, says such discussions are already taking place.

"We've known there is a connection. And it's more complicated by the fact that we may not see the real effects for decades," he said. "That's why we need something in the agreement that allows us to, after 20 years, go back and take another look at it."

jbaird@sltrib.com

deseretnews.com

Deseret Morning News, Tuesday, March 27, 2007

Impact of water plan in question

Official says supplemental study of larger area needed

By Steve Fidel
Deseret Morning News

A $6 million federal study shows that a water-development plan in Nevada will adversely impact water users in Utah.

However, the U.S. Geological Survey research area was not large enough to adequately resolve the political questions of Nevada's controversial plan, said Kimball Goddard, director of the USGS Nevada Water Science Center.

If Nevada proceeds with a plan to pump water to Las Vegas from about 10 regions of east-central Nevada, water tables would drop below Spring Valley, just west of the Utah border, and in adjacent Snake Valley, which extends into Utah's Millard County. Agricultural water users in Snake Valley and water officials in Utah have long agreed that is the case. In question is the extent of the impact.

The groundwater decrease in Spring and Snake valleys could take years, even centuries, Goddard said. Terry Marasco, who owns the Silver Jack Inn in Baker, Nev., said the water table doesn't have to drop much before vegetation is adversely impacted, drying up habitat for deer herds that attract hunters, who account for 10 percent of his motel business.

"If the water drops, how much longer before farmers have to drill deeper wells, and at what cost?" Marasco questioned.

Millard County Commissioner John Cooper said the USGS findings strengthen his opposition to any pumping in the study areas of Nevada. "If (the water table) is impugned even a little bit, we're impacted adversely."

"The financial impacts need a model that hasn't been created yet," Goddard said following a Monday presentation on the USGS study's findings, which will soon be open to public review. A final draft report is expected in July.

Snake Valley is at the eastern edge of the USGS's study area. "It indicates there is more water moving between aquifers than we previously thought," said Boyd Clayton, assistant Utah state engineer. "I think we will look very closely at what the inter-basin flow implications might be."

Goddard suggested a supplemental study encompassing a larger area, from southern Idaho to Death Valley, is needed to address questions about the amount of water that is available for development without adversely affecting nature's ability to recharge the underground water supply.

Deseret Morning News graphic

Clayton agrees. "I believe our position has always been that the waters of that valley — some of it belongs to us and some of it belongs to Nevada. We've developed some of that, and they've developed some of theirs. I don't think we're willing to say, either of us, we can't develop any more."

Goddard said state engineers from Nevada and Utah, not the federal government, will ultimately decide what water-development permits will be issued in their states. Clayton said those developments are subject to ongoing negotiation between the two states. "I think we're both trying to move ahead as best as we can."

E-mail: sfidel@desnews.com

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No harmful agents found in Green

Water samples come back clean, but analysts are still concerned

By Joe Baird
The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:03/23/2007 03:08:12 AM MDT

The state's top water quality official said that initial test results taken from the site of a possible chemical spill on the Green River showed no evidence of harmful materials.

The test sample, supplied by the Bureau of Land Management, was smaller than state water specialists would have liked for a full analysis, Division of Water Quality Director Walt Baker said Thursday.

"But the analysis we did do showed the samples were clean. They did not contain what we would normally expect in regards to diesel or other contaminants," he said. Still, Baker remains concerned about the origins of the discharge, which he doubts has a natural explanation.

"There was nothing natural about the size of the event," he said. "The foaming that is created by [oil and gas-related] fracturing fluid is not inconsistent with what you could expect if it was disposed of in the river. It's difficult to say if it's natural or [fracturing] fluid. Our information is not definitive. But we're awfully suspicious."

Division of Water Quality officials are continuing to take water samples on the river, both in the Sand Wash area, where the discharge was initially noticed, and further downstream at the city of Green River.

Baker said he is also troubled by the time lag between the initial reports of foam and odor on the river near the Ouray area on March 9, additional reports of a large amount of foam covering the river last Friday at Sand Wash, and the time the state was notified on Monday.

"We weren't notified as quickly as we would have liked," he said. "With all the dilution and higher flows, I don't know what we'll see now."

Bureau of Land Management officials said they are still assessing their response to the incident, but acknowledged it could have been quicker.

"We feel like there might have been some internal miscues in terms of notification," said BLM spokeswoman Mary Wilson.

The Sand Wash area of the Green River is the primary put-in spot for rafters floating down through Desolation Canyon. Numerous oil and gas drilling operations are located in the surrounding area.

Jim Springer, spokesman for the state Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, said his agency has received no reports from local operators of a spill or any other incident.

"Barring a report or something our inspector finds, there is nothing right now we can trace," he said.

If the spill does have its origins with the oil and gas activity surrounding the Green River corridor, environmental groups call it an alarming development - regardless of whether the incident was intentional or not.

"This is a pristine water source used by 30 million people in the U.S.," said John Weisheit, conservation director of Moab-based Living Rivers. "These oil companies are supposed to properly treat and dispose of these materials. They need to investigate this and not blow it off."

The Bureau of Land Management in 2005 authorized up to 778 oil and gas wells in the Castle Peak and Eight Mile Flat area on the west side of the Green River between Ouray and Sand Wash. Steve Bloch, an attorney with the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, said such intensive activity does not come without consequences.

"An incident like this, to the extent there is a connection with the oil and gas industry, is exactly one of the concerns we've had with so much development along the Green River," Bloch said.

jbaird@sltrib.com

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jbaird@sltrib.com

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Water restored to neighborhood

The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:03/22/2007 01:08:11 AM MDT

The faucets went dry in about 50 Cottonwood Heights homes east of 3200 East between Big and Little Cottonwood canyons on Wednesday, said Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore.

The water services were cut Wednesdasy afternoon because a storage tank near the city's water treatment facility was taken offline during construction by the Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy, Cullimore said.

Metro Water manages the Salt Lake Aqueduct, which is the primary source of water for Salt Lake City's Department of Public Utilities. Cottonwood Heights is serviced by the department.

Because of the warm weather, water usage during the construction exceeded Metro Water's projections, affecting the high east bench homes fed from the storage tank.

Stephanie Duer, spokeswoman for Salt Lake City's Department of Public Utilities, said water service had been restored Wednesday evening.

- Rosemary Winters and Cathy McKitrick

deseretnews.com

Deseret Morning News, Thursday, March 22, 2007

Triple whammy on snowpack

By Elaine Jarvik
Deseret Morning News

Sunny days and hardly any rain. It's been a great March — unless you've got your eye on the snowpack in Utah's mountains.

"It's not looking very good," said Ray Wilson, hydrologist with the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service in Salt Lake City, about snowpack totals across the state.

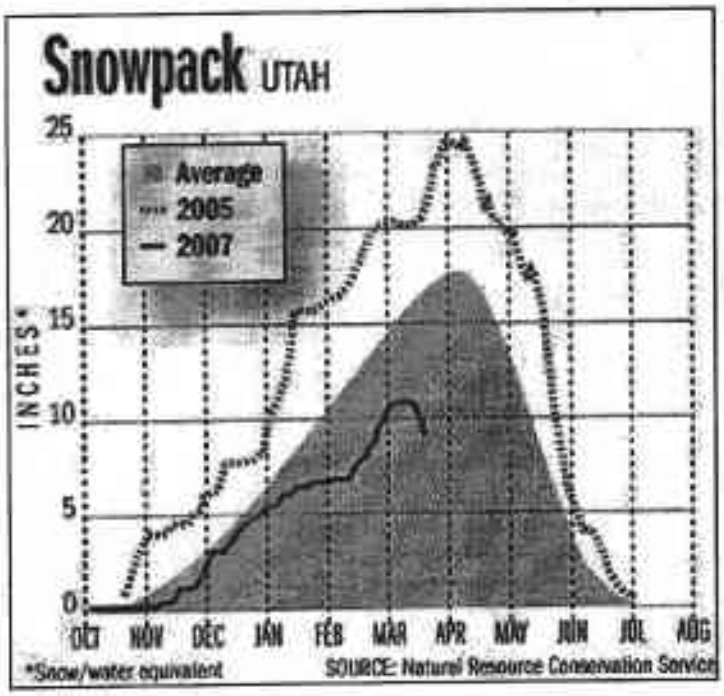
The snowpack has been hit with a triple whammy: 70 percent of average snowfall statewide; a melt that began three weeks too early; and now about a third of normal precipitation for March, which is usually Utah's wettest month.

Even if the state got a few big storms, Wilson said, "it's probably too late to salvage the snowpack" for this year.

The snowpack levels are so low that they've fallen below the "lower-limit checks" on the agency's computers. "So we're falling into new-record territory" at some sites in central and southern Utah, he said. As of Wednesday, snowpack levels were 28 percent of normal in the Virgin River basin, and 60 percent of normal in northern Utah.

"Once the snowpack gets this warm, it takes a lot of cool weather to stop the melt," Wilson said. "You can get fresh snow deposit on top, but the snowpack is still warm enough to where it's losing water."

A warm spring, with melting stretching out for additional weeks, means that more snowpack is lost to the "-ations" — evaporation, sublimation, infiltration and transpiration (water use by plants) — explained snow-survey supervisor Randy Julander.



Deseret Morning News Graphic

"Stream flow is the last thing that comes out of the checkbook," he said. "Everything else has to be paid off first."

Spring rain in the mountains goes directly into the ground and doesn't contribute to the runoff in any appreciable way, he added. Julander was in the mountains east of Cedar City on Wednesday, surveying the snowpack. It was raining at nearly 9,000 feet, he reported.

The good news is that the state has water stored in its reservoirs, so this year, the skimpy snowpack won't have much impact on water supplies. "If we get multiple years (of low snowpack), we'll start to see more problems," Wilson said.

E-mail: jarvik@desnews.com

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River foam mystery may be solved today

Chemical spill a possible cause of the smelly stuff on the Green

By Joe Baird
and Judy Fahys
The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:03/22/2007 01:08:24 AM MDT

State environmental officials are still awaiting test results of what could be a chemical spill in the Sand Wash area of the Green River in eastern Utah.

Walt Baker, director of the Utah Division of Water Quality, said Wednesday that samples from the discharge, which created a significant amount of foam on the river and what observers described as a "bad odor," were being analyzed, with results expected Thursday morning.

Sand Wash, located about 40 miles south of Vernal, is the primary put-in area for Green River rafters to access Desolation Canyon, which lies farther to the south.

Initial tests, according to Michael Zucker, a response and remediation specialist with the Department of Environmental Quality, indicated the presence of montmorillonite clay minerals and aluminum chloride.

"This could be from natural runoff of clay formations and alkali. It could also be from drilling mud used in oil production," he said.

In other words, the discharge could be from an unreported dump, or some kind of release from oil and gas drilling operations located in the general vicinity of Sand Wash - or even farther upstream.

The foamy conditions could also be the result of an unusually early and high spring runoff. Green River flows at the U.S. Geological Survey's Jensen monitoring station were running 85 percent above normal this week.

Baker declined to speculate on the cause of the spill until the test results are in. But David Jackson, a Colorado-based whitewater guide who has extensive experience on the Green River, says he doubts the conditions currently seen on the river have a natural explanation.

Initial observations of foam and odor on the river were made on March 9. The initial incident report filed by the state says the foamy substance covered "100 percent" of the river channel by this past weekend.

"If this were a natural phenomenon, it would be seen every year," Jackson said.

"I can say that I have never seen the river covered in foam like described here. Neither have I ever heard anyone else describe the river similarly covered."

Baker said said state water analysts are currently combing the river from Sand Wash down to the city of Green River taking additional samples.

Jerry Kenczka, assistant manager for the BLM's Vernal Field Office, said agency officials were dispatched to the area Monday, and initial foam and water samples were taken. It is possible, he said, that the release may have occurred above Sand Wash.

"One of the guys who went down there yesterday saw some foam farther upstream, perhaps from the Ouray crossing or the Jensen crossing," he said. "It could have come from upstream. We just don't know right now."

But Kenczka said observers sent to the scene did not find any immediate impacts to fish and wildlife.

"Nobody has seen any dead fish or dead animals," he said.

jbaird@sltrib.com
fahys@sltrib.com

From: <paulhansen@sprint.blackberry.net>
To: "Ken Wilde" <kwilde@utah.gov>, <Ericksan@aol.com>, "Laurie McNeill" <Lmc...
Date: 3/14/2007 8:15 AM
Subject: Re: HB 99

CC: "Bob Hart" <BHART@utah.gov>, "Heather Bobb" <HBOBB@utah.gov>, "Julie Cob...
Sounds great, thank you.
Paul
Sent from my BlackBerry® wireless device

-----Original Message-----
From: "Ken Wilde" <kwilde@utah.gov>
Date: Wed, 14 Mar 2007 08:13:28
To:<Ericksan@aol.com>, "Laurie McNeill" <Lmcneill@cc.usu.edu>, <FransonJW@franson-noble.com>, "Paul Hansen" <paul@paulhansenassociates.com>, <petra_rust@pepperidgefarm.com>, "Helen Graber" <hgraber@socwk.utah.edu>, "Dianne Nielson" <DNIELSON@utah.gov>, "Ken Bousfield" <KBOUSFIELD@utah.gov>, "Myron Bateman" <MBATEMAN@utah.gov>, "Ronald Thompson" <RWTHOMPSON@utah.gov>, "Kenneth Bassett" <kbassett@vernalcity.org>, "Daniel Fleming" <Danielf2368@yahoo.com>
Cc:"Bob Hart" <BHART@utah.gov>, "Heather Bobb" <HBOBB@utah.gov>, "Julie Cobleigh" <JCOBLEIGH@utah.gov>, "Karin Tatum" <KTATUM@utah.gov>, "Linda Matulich" <LMATULICH@utah.gov>, "Michael Grange" <MGRANGE@utah.gov>, "Rich Peterson" <RICHPETERSON@utah.gov>, "Sandy Pett" <SPETT@utah.gov>
Subject: HB 99

Dear Board Members,
The Governor signed HB 99 on Monday. We have made some preparations already and can now complete our work to implement it.

Many of you expressed a desire for us to schedule a work session on the morning of May 11 to discuss the proposed "body politic" rule, rather than take a tour. We will arrange that. I'm thinking that as part of the work session we could also present an explanation of what changes HB 99 makes and our recommendations to implement the changes.

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From: Myron Bateman
To: Bassett, Kenneth; Bousfield, Ken; Ericksan@aol.com; Fleming, Daniel; ...
Date: 3/15/2007 6:04 AM
Subject: Re: HB 99

CC: Bobb, Heather; Cobleigh, Julie; Grange, Michael; Hart, Bob; Matulich...

I will be out of country May 11-19. Please excuse me from the board meeting.

>>> Ken Wilde 03/14/07 7:13 AM >>>
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Linda Matulich - Re: HB 99

From:
To: , , , , , , , , , , ,
Date: 3/15/2007 12:51 PM
Subject: Re: HB 99
CC: , , , , , , ,

Sounds like a good plan! Hope most can make it.

Anne

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The forecast: Warm and worrisome

Early melt adds to water concerns

State is missing out on March snow, and much runoff is just evaporating

By Joe Baird
The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:03/13/2007 09:44:11 AM MDT

WEST JORDAN - Water forecasters were cautiously optimistic a week ago that a normal - that is to say, wet - March could bolster depleted snowpacks around the state.

A lot can happen in a week, however. And in this case, none of it has been good.

A high pressure system that has settled over Utah and the rest of the interior West has, and will continue, to deliver dry conditions and well-above-normal temperatures for at least the next seven to 10 days.

That's great news for gardeners, golfers and skiers. But the toasty weather outlook - temperatures in northern Utah are expected to climb into the low- and even mid-60s through next week, 10 to 15 degrees above average - has crushed any hopes of a decent runoff season in Utah. And that bodes ill for the state's water supply.

"Everything changed in about a three-day period," Brian McInerney, a hydrologist with the National Weather Service's Salt Lake City office, said Monday. "When the long-range [weather forecasting] models came out at the beginning of the month, they showed a series of storms, and that could have gotten us to 75 or 80 percent of our normal water supply.

"But every model since then has been drier and warmer, and the latest one is ever worse. The bottom has dropped out. We're now looking at 35 to 40 percent of normal."

McInerney says that grim scenario is even worse in southwest Utah, where temperatures have shot into the 80s and flows out of the Virgin River basin are only expected to deliver about 20 percent of the normal snowmelt.

In fact, water supply officials noted at a Monday morning gathering at the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District offices that the runoff season, has, for all intents and purposes, already started. Particularly at the lower and middle elevations.

"March is typically a very snowy month," said Randy Julander, Utah's snow survey supervisor for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. "Usually at this time the snowpack numbers are increasing. But with every dry day we're losing about 1 percent" of the snowpack.

"We're about two to three weeks in advance of where we should be," he said of the current runoff conditions.

The state does have a couple of aces in the hole. Most major reservoirs around the state are filled to about where they should be for this time of year. And a wet fall, combined with the recent flurry of storms in February has kept soil moisture levels, and thus groundwater levels, near normal.

But that scenario, too, is changing as the weather heats up and another high pressure ridge parks itself over the Great Basin.

"Groundwater is like money in the bank," McInerney said. "We'll do fine this year. But next year we'll start lower than before. We'll have less money in the bank."

Why? Early snowmelt is a less efficient snowmelt. More snowpack is lost to evaporation and, with plants and flowers now beginning to pop up, to transpiration, in which plants absorb water. That translates not only into less water flowing to streams, but aquifers as well.

"The bottom line is we're halfway through March. We're now going to need 300 to 350 percent over the average [March] accumulation to reach normal," said Julander, the snow survey supervisor. "That's just not going to happen."

jbaird@sltrib.com

High and dry

With every dry day, Utah is losing about 1 percent of the snowpack.

* **Dry conditions** and above-normal temperatures are expected in Utah and the rest of the interior West for at least the next seven to 10 days.

* **In southwestern Utah**, with temperatures in the 80s, flows out of the Virgin River basin are expected to deliver about 20 percent of the normal snowmelt.

Source: National Weather Service

The forecast: Warm and worrisome

Early melt adds to water concerns

State is missing out on March snow, and much runoff is just evaporating

By Joe Baird
The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

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Contractor named for pipeline project in S. Utah

The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:03/13/2007 12:19:39 AM MDT

The state's Board of Water Resources has selected a contractor to begin preliminary engineering and environmental studies for the proposed Lake Powell pipeline.

MWH, a worldwide firm based in Colorado, was chosen over four other companies that submitted bids to complete the $5.6 million project.

"We are now beginning the early stages of developing this project. Studies completed previously established the general feasibility of the project and possible alignments. These are now outdated," said Dennis Strong, director of the Utah Division of Water Resources. "These studies are needed to better define the project and evaluate it in response to rapidly rising construction costs."

The studies, which will take 18 months to complete, will analyze construction issues, such as the physical route of the 130-mile pipeline. They will also review alternatives of the water needs in the communities the pipeline will serve, as well as water conservation options.

Study results will be turned over to the Bureau of Land Management, which will use the information as part of its own environmental analysis process. The BLM, which manages most of the land the pipeline will be built on, will decide whether to grant permits for the project.

The Lake Powell pipeline will link the giant reservoir on the Utah-Arizona border with Kane and Washington counties. An additional 35-mile spur will be built that will connect the main pipeline with Iron County.

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Utah Lake

Guv signs panel to improve, protect

State representatives will sit on the panel along with local officials and stakeholders

By Todd Hollingshead
The Salt Lake Tribune

Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:03/10/2007 12:31:34 AM MST

PROVO - Gov. Jon Huntsman Jr. joined Utah County's biggest political fish Friday to commemorate a newly formed panel charged with protecting the state's largest freshwater lake.

Huntsman ceremoniously signed into law legislation that makes the state a member of the Utah Lake Commission.

"We don't get things done in this state unless we come together," Huntsman told a room of city, county and state officials. "Now we have an opportunity to sit around a table with a common sense of purpose."

Several state representatives will sit on the commission along with local officials and other stakeholders, while the state will fund 35 percent of the panel's budget.

The commission has been a long time coming. A special Utah Lake Study Committee was created to study the issue, and last September proposed the formation of the commission.

Once the governor signed HCR1, passed last month by the Legislature, local governmental representatives, including those from nine Utah County cities and the Central Utah Water Conservancy District ceremoniously signed the interlocal agreement that establishes the commission.

"This is one of the most important actions that we've taken together in many years in Utah County," said study-committee Chairman and Provo Mayor Lewis Billings.

The commission's task: encourage lake use, coordinate communication among stakeholders, protect and preserve the resource and improve recreational access.

Those improvements will start with the development of a Utah Lake master plan, a process that will likely take six months, according to Utah County Public Works Director Clyde Naylor.

Rep. Stephen Clark, R-Provo, who sponsored the state legislation, noted any other state would have long since taken action to improve a resource such as Utah Lake.

"We were now going to bring a diamond out of the rough," Clark said.

Friday's signing also afforded officials the chance to announce a massive carp-removal initiative.

In an effort to clean up the lake and create a better ecological system for the June sucker, a fish naturally found only in Utah Lake, officials want to remove 75 percent of the 5.9 million carp.

According to the June Sucker Recovery Implementation Program Web site, the endangered species declined from the millions in the early 19th century to fewer than 1,000 today.

The process would remove 4.7 million carp - enough to fill about 27,260 trucks and enough to stretch the fish end to end all the way to Cleveland. To illustrate that point, a carp-filled truck sat outside the Utah Lake State Park visitor's center.

Chris Keleher, the recovery program's assistant director, said the commission is a good start to improving the lake and helping protect the June sucker.

"We look forward to sitting at the table with these partners," Keleher said, ". . . a major step in the right direction."

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deseretnews.com

Deseret Morning News, Saturday, March 10, 2007

Commission to tackle future of Utah Lake

By Amy Choate-Nielsen
Deseret Morning News

PROVO — A truck bed full of lifeless carp might not be a pretty sight, but to the newly ratified Utah Lake Commission, the glassy-eyed fish are a symbol.

In fact, as Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman Jr. ceremoniously signed a document inside Utah Lake State Park headquarters Friday, making the Utah Lake Commission a state-sanctioned reality, the fish were right outside, a reminder of one of the tasks the commission will have to tackle.

A fisherman launches his boat onto Utah Lake. The newly formed Utah Lake Commission will work toward the betterment of the area.
Jason Olson, Deseret Morning News

"I knew things were getting pretty darn serious when (Provo Mayor Lewis Billings) came into my office and he said, 'We run the risk, in the not-too-distant future, of having the carp as the symbol of our city,'" Huntsman joked to an audience of city dignitaries who attended the signing on Friday. "There was probably a look of seriousness in his eyes, but I know he didn't mean it."

Reducing the number of carp in Utah Lake is one issue the Utah Lake Study Committee — now known as the Utah Lake Commission — has discussed during the three years it's taken for the group to become an official entity. But the commission's overall goal is to bridge a gap between all of the different parties who have a stake in the lake — and work together for the betterment of the area.

During the recent legislative session, the Senate and House approved HCR1, a House Concurrent Resolution that allows Utah's Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Environmental Quality and the Central Utah Water Conservancy District to participate in the commission. Huntsman signed the resolution on Friday, as Rep. Stephen Clark, R-Provo, and Senate President John Valentine, R-Orem, voiced their support for the committee.

"All I know is this, we don't get things done in this state unless we're all coming together around a common vision and a common set of goals," Huntsman said. "I think all of those who have thought about the future of this lake probably could have told anybody in this room that we're not going to make much progress until such time as we're all coming together around this with a common vision and a common sense of destiny."

Deseret Morning News graphic

In addition to HCR1, local cities and the County Commission have also agreed to participate in an interlocal agreement to form the lake commission. All of the participating entities, including state-funded departments, will contribute financially to the commission in order to vote

So far, officials in Genola, Lindon, Lehi, Orem, Provo, Springville, Mapleton, Saratoga Springs, American Fork and the Utah County Commission have committed to the new panel. Leaders in Vineyard, Woodland Hills and Pleasant Grove are still considering joining the commission.

"What we are doing today has been attempted on other occasions for entir decades without success," Billings told the audience. "Any one of us alone, I think, would not be successful in doing what has to be done, but all of us working together, I believe, without question, will."

The commission will have its first meeting at 7:30 a.m. April 19 at Utah Lake State Park, and its first order of business will be to "get organized," said Utah County engineer Clyde Naylor, who is involved on the commission's technical committee. The commission will be looking to hire an executive director who will oversee the functions of the commission on a daily basis.

The commission plans to develop a master plan to promote multiple uses of the lake, protect the environment, increase and maintain recreational access to the lake, and work with developers, municipalities and land owners who have interests in the lake.

"I think the point is that it brings everybody together, so when you need funding, it will be easier to get when you have everyone behind you," said Kris Beulow, a coordinator with the Central Utah Water Conservancy District who is working to reduce the number of carp in the lake. "It's exciting. This is a chance to sit down and make sure you do the right thing."

Government officials and guests of the bill signing look at carp that were netted from Utah Lake on Friday. Reducing the number of the fish in the lake is one issue the study committee has discussed.

Stuart Johnson, Deseret Morning News

E-mail: achoate@desnews.com

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Stuart Johnson, Deseret Morning News

E-mail: achoate@desnews.com

Water board considers sewer treatment plant
By MEG CADY
mcady@thespectrum.com

CEDAR CITY - Central Iron County Water Conservancy District board members will decide whether or not to put a sewer treatment facility in the Chekshani Cliffs area.

Developer Steve Ashworth asked the Iron County Commission and CICWCD to consider taking on the project, which requires a governmental entity or special service district to run the plant.

"I'm just looking for an alternative way to keep clean water," Ashworth said, noting he doesn't want hundreds of septic tanks in his subdivision south of Cedar City. "The idea is to fix it now rather than fix it later. If I could do it, I'd probably do it on my own."

Nolte engineer Jon Sebba presented how sewer treatment plants work and their benefits during the water district's Nov. 16 meeting; he said the cost would be about $1.2 million or more.

Sewer treatment plants use ultrafiltration to clean sewer water to a drinkable standard, although it's used as secondary and irrigation water.

"The intense radiation (of ultraviolet) kills anything that managed to get through," Sebba said.

CICWCD General Manager Scott Wilson said board members are looking at the plant as a potential regional solution, not just for Ashworth's subdivision.

"Water is so scarce down there," Wilson said about the New Harmony drainage basin where the plant would be located.

A sewer treatment plant is a highly effective way to capture and reuse water, Wilson said.

Sebba said a sewer treatment plant has the capacity to clean 250,000 gallons of

IF YOU GO

- **WHAT:** Central Iron County District meeting.
- **WHEN:** Tonight at 6:30.
- **WHERE:** At the Cedar City Room, located at 303 N. 100 E

water a day and is easily upgraded to handle more. Maintenance costs are also extremely low.

Also during tonight's meeting, councilors will look at implementing a small-project policy.

Wilson said the policy would mirror other governmental entities in simplifying the process of getting bids for projects less than $20,000 or $30,000.

The policy would set up a rotation list but still entertain quotes, keeping the process competitive.

"It would streamline things," Wilson said.

Originally published April 5, 2007

Wednesday, March 28, 2007 Serving Logan Utah and Cache County

LOCAL NEWS

Gitmo Guilty Plea
BEN FOX explains why a Guantanamo Bay detainee's guilty plea is a Bush administration victory.

Bear River may feature up to 5 dams by 2040

By Kim Burgess

Within 30 years, Bear River could feature several large new dams, the director of the Utah Division of Water Resources said Tuesday.

"If we (Utah) continue to grow as projected, additional water projects will be needed," Dennis Strong told an audience of 120 at the Northern Utah Mini Water Conference.

Though the number and exact locations of the proposed reservoirs have changed during the past decade, two are fairly definite. The first, Washakie Reservoir, would be located near the Idaho border in the Malad Valley. The other, Oneida Narrows, would be built just north of Cache Valley.

Construction of the reservoirs is unlikely before 2040, but Strong believes high water demand could speed the process.

"It's hard to predict," Strong explained. "If the ground water in Cache Valley keeps shrinking and the drought continues, the need could occur sooner."

More imminent is a pipeline to transport Bear River water from Honeyville to Willard Bay. The small diversion dam would operate during the spring and provide 30,000 acre feet. It could be built by 2020.

Both the reservoirs and the pipeline are supported by the 1991 Bear Lake Development Act, which mandated that the state use the surface waters of the Bear River. Of those waters, Salt Lake County is set to receive 5,000 acre feet, while Cache County, Box Elder County and Weber/Davis counties would each get 6,000 acre feet. Strong predicts that booming populations will motivate Salt Lake County and Weber County to ask for more water, leading to even greater consumption of the Bear River.

"Utah is growing quickly, so every area wants water," Strong said.

The Herald Journal's Web site now allows readers to post comments on local news stories. At the end of each article there is

Multimedia


The Toll: Coalition Casualties Since March 2003


Four Years: AP Journalists Look Back


Iraq and Vietnam: Contrasting Protests


Land Mines From Iran-Iraq War Sold on Black Market


Iraqi Outpost Tests War Strategy


Iraq's Toll Felt Across U.S.


Iraq's Forgotten Halabja


Iraq's Power Woes

PHOTO GALLERY

Latest photos from Iraq

Recent Stories

Dozens dead after police, enraged by yesterday's bombings, go on killing spree in Tal Afar

Bush renews vow to veto bill with troop withdrawal deadline, slams Democrats over effort

Suicide attackers set off chlorine bombs in Fallujah, wounding 15 U.S. and Iraqi soldiers

McCain praises Bush's security plan in Iraq, says progress is

being made

U.S. military deaths in Iraq at 3,242 Tuesday, according to count by The Associated Press

Documents

- Executive Summary: DOD Inspector General on Pre-Iraq War Intelligence Activities(2/9/2007)
- Unclassified National Intelligence Estimate Summary on Iraq (2/2/2007)
- Inspector General Report on Iraq Reconstruction (1/31/2007)
- Iraq Study Group Report (12/2006)
- Senate Prewar Intelligence (9/2006)
- Pentagon Report Iraq, (8/2006)
- Congressional Report on Appropriations, (4/2006)

a for where readers can type their name and comment regarding the article.

In inviting reader comments on the day's news, The Herald Journal is hoping to promote a largely uncensored and free-flowing dialogue among readers. However, any comments deemed potentially libelous or obscene will be removed from the site, as will any entries appearing to promote a commercial venture. The IP address of any person posting a comment is logged and any comments of a criminal nature, such as personal threats or unfounded personal accusations, may be referred to law enforcement.

OH! wrote on *March 28, 2007 9:34 AM:*"The reporter must have been sitting so far back that he couldn't read or hear the correct figures . The amount of water is 50,000 acre feet, not 5,000 acre feet allocated to Salt Lake County . Where are the other three dams that the headlines blared ? If we are reporting, let's get it right ."

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>> LOCAL NEWS


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State water supply nears record low

By Kim Burgess

Cache Valley has just over half of usual snowpack

Utah's water supply is nearing a record low, and is unlikely to improve before next year, a Natural Resources Conservation Service hydrologist said Tuesday.

"Let's get on to the bad news because there isn't a lot of good news," Randy Julander joked at the beginning of his presentation, which was part of the Northern Utah Mini Water Conference. The annual event provides information on water law, management and conservation.

Among the statistics mentioned, Cache Valley snowpack is at 55 percent of average. Bug Lake has reached the bottom third of all recorded snowpacks and is headed to the bottom 10 percent. Monte Cristo's current level is already among the bottom 10 percent since records of snowpack in the area have been kept.

In Southern Utah, the situation is even more dire.

Snowpack in that area of the state is at 23 percent of average. Near Monticello, the entire snowpack has already melted and streams are nearly dry.

According to Julander, the problem has two sources: The snowpack was low throughout the winter, and it began melting early in the season. A long, slow melt means more water is lost to evaporation and condensation.

Heavy March snows could have halted the process and brought Northern Utah water levels close to the average; but instead, the month was unusually warm and dry. That trend will continue through the summer.

"It doesn't look like this will be a real fun year," Julander said.

Still, some of the information was positive. Bear River soil has retained a high moisture content, and area reservoirs are near

being made

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Congressional Report on Appropriations, (4/2006)

average levels.

Overall, though, Julander believes the situation will be tough for farmers.

"Go home and watch March Madness because there's not much you can do to change this," he explained.

Dairy farmer Ray Bankhead agreed.

"You just have to wait it out," he said. "It's just damn lucky that we've had good people get these reservoirs built."

Bankhead lives near Hyrum Reservoir, which is currently full. With proper management, he imagines he'll have enough water.

"You're always concerned about water," Bankhead continued. "It's good to listen to this presentation and have an idea of what to expect with the water and what we need to do to take care of it."

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The Herald Journal's Web site now allows readers to post comments on local news stories. At the end of each article there is a for where readers can type their name and comment regarding the article.

In inviting reader comments on the day's news, The Herald Journal is hoping to promote a largely uncensored and free-flowing dialogue among readers. However, any comments deemed potentially libelous or obscene will be removed from the site, as will any entries appearing to promote a commercial venture. The IP address of any person posting a comment is logged and any comments of a criminal nature, such as personal threats or unfounded personal accusations, may be referred to law enforcement.

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Deseret Morning News, Saturday, March 24, 2007

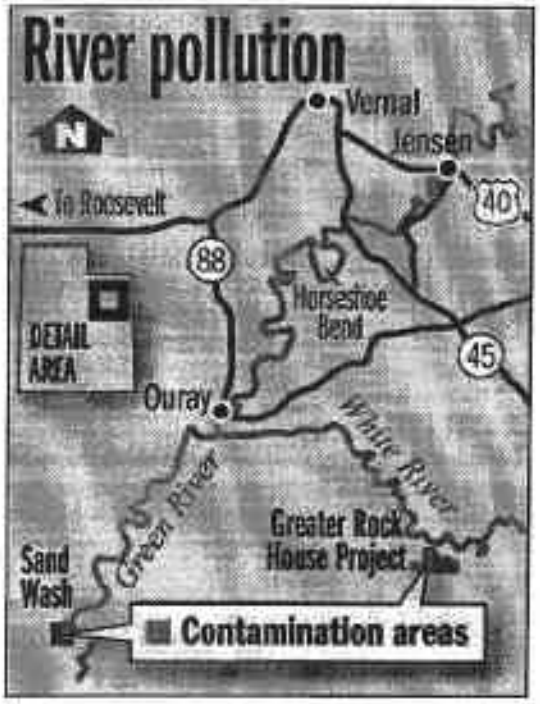
2 pollution incidents are probed

Drilling fluid leaks into ground; foam is found on river water

By Geoff Liesik and Jared Page
Deseret Morning News

VERNAL — State environmental officials are investigating two incidents in which pollution was found around rivers in eastern Utah.

A leak from a natural gas well reserve pit one mile south of the White River was reported to the Bureau of Land Management on Thursday, BLM officials said in a news release Friday. The BLM was told of the leak by Enduring Resources, a Colorado-based energy exploration company.



Deseret Morning News graphic

Although the lined reserve pit is located on property managed by the Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration, it had leaked about 1,200 gallons of drilling fluid across BLM-managed land in Atchee Wash, which is about 40 miles south of Vernal.

The site is part of the company's Rock House Project, which includes plans to develop 55 natural gas wells with roads, pipelines and well pads. The project has drawn criticism from environmentalists and recreation-oriented groups, who had gathered about 33,000 comments by this past December opposing the company's plans. The opposition was organized by the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, the Natural Resources Defense Council and The Wilderness Society.

Enduring Resources Vice President Alex B. Campbell said when the leak was discovered this week, crews immediately constructed two berms in an attempt to contain the spill. They then used a vacuum truck to remove the fluid from the berms and empty the reserve pit. The fluid was stopped about one mile away from the White River, Campbell said.

Samples of the drilling fluid have been recovered for testing.

Scott Hacking, a district engineer with the state Department of Environmental Quality, was slated to make an assessment of the reserve pit spill site Friday. He was not available for comment at press time.

Reserve pits are used to store drilling fluids during well operations. The leaking pit is a fresh water/mud system that could contain barite, a component of drilling fluid used to add weight and minimize fluid loss into fractured underground formations.

The White River enters northeastern Utah from Colorado. It empties into the Green River, which was the focus of an investigation by the state Division of Water Quality earlier this week after the agency received reports of foul-smelling foam on the river.

Test results indicate the foamy, smelly substance found floating in the Sand Wash area of the Green River last week isn't harmful, but the testing was not done until eight days after the foaming was first reported. Sand Wash is a popular put-in or launching area for Green River rafting through Desolation Canyon.

Utah Division of Water Quality director Walt Baker said officials "don't have a smoking gun" for the foaming, which was spotted March 12 by a visitor at the Ouray National Wildlife Refuge in the Uinta Basin and reported to the BLM.

"We don't know if it was man-caused or a naturally occurring phenomenon," Baker said.

A breakdown in communication between state agencies kept DWQ out of the loop until Monday, which made collecting samples and testing less effective, he said.

The tests conducted at the Utah Division of Laboratory Services showed no elevated concentrations of substances or chemicals that would be harmful to the ecosystem or to the public, Baker said.

"We're continuing to study things and taking samples," he said.

State water-quality officials originally suspected that fluids from drilling operations in the area may have been discharged in the river, Baker said.

"There are foaming agents in some of the drilling fluids they use," he said. "It would be illegal to discharge those compounds into the waters of the state. They contain diesel fuel or other harmful compounds that would be bad for the environment."

Baker said there's no evidence suggesting drilling fluid was the cause of the foaming, "but we haven't categorically ruled that out."

It's common for foaming to occur on the river in spring when increased runoff transports decomposing plants, leaves and algae — and the fatty acids they contain — to streams and rivers, Baker said.

"Because we weren't able to be there on site, see (the foaming), capture it and test it in the field under a microscope, we may never know what caused it," he said.

▶ Court overturns approvals for logging in southern Utah

Associated Press

A federal appeals court reversed plans for big timber sales on national forest land in southern Utah.

The logging would have produced enough timber to fill a line of logging trucks bumper-to-bumper from Salt Lake City to Provo, according to the Utah Environmental Congress, a coalition of conservation groups that sued to block the sales.

The U.S. Forest Service had approved the logging in a decision upheld by U.S. District Judge Paul Cassell, but it was overturned Wednesday by the Denver-based 10th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals.

"We've stopped the most destructive logging here, and protected thousands of acres of forest for the critters," said Sarah Tal, attorney for the Utah Environmental Congress.

The appeals court let three logging projects move forward in northern Utah, but struck down logging of mature Engelmann spruce across 5,340 acres or 8.3 square miles in the Dixie and Manti-LaSal national forests of southern Utah.

The appeals court ordered the Forest Service to re-evaluate the logging sales in southern Utah before it makes any timber available for cutting. The logging projects in northern Utah were approved under a different set of rules based on more recently adopted forest plans.

The southern Utah projects included logging proposed as early as 1995 that was repeatedly delayed, most recently in 2002 when the Utah Environmental Congress successfully challenged it. The group argued the Forest Service didn't properly assess the effect of logging on wildlife species in the Manti-LaSal forest.

"Hopefully they will not bring it back a fourth time. It's in a beautiful area and they don't need to do this extensive logging project," said Kevin Mueller, executive director of the Utah Environmental Congress. "We have never seen a timber sale of that scale since we formed in Utah in 1998."

Erin O'Connor, a spokeswoman for the Forest Service's Intermountain Region, said attorneys for the agency were reviewing the ruling and had no comment on it.

E-mail: geoff@ubstandard.com; jpage@desnews.com

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deseretnews.com

Deseret Morning News, Saturday, March 24, 2007

Roosevelt water request is denied

By Leziee E. Whiting
For the Deseret Morning News

After two years of study, state water engineer Jerry Olds has rejected Roosevelt's request to change the diversion of its water rights from the Durigan Springs into Hayden Wells.

More than 100 property owners in the Neola area are cheering the ruling, while city officials are calling it a "slap in the face" for all municipalities that must stockpile water rights as they try to plan for growth.

"I think this is a setback for municipalities throughout the state. We are going to oppose his position," said Roosevelt Mayor Russell Cowan. "It strikes against good public policy because it strikes against what our community needs as it continues to grow."

According to Cowan, the city is prepared to appeal Olds' ruling as far as necessary. "We are not going to roll over and play dead," he said.

The city asked to be allowed to take a portion of its certified water rights from the Hayden field and transfer them or change the point of diversion to the Durigan field near Neola. This would allow it to produce an old irrigation well that would have "provided a substantial amount of drinking water," said city administrator Brad Hancock.

The city's Hayden Wells and Durigan Springs are both east of Neola.

According to city officials, projected growth in population propelled by the flourishing energy industry has prompted an urgent need for an additional long-term supply of culinary water.

The state water engineer wrote that he was rejecting the city's application because it constituted "an expansion of their water rights." Olds said his decision may be revisited in the future "as deemed necessary." His decision also indicated that Roosevelt's ability to divert the water from the Durigan site "may have been lost through non-use."

The water rights forfeiture law, written several years ago, states that if you do not use your water rights within five consecutive years you lose your water rights. However, Hancock said this is the first time to his knowledge that the doctrine has been used against a municipality.

"When it went into effect everyone said that cannot apply to municipalities or what cities are banking on for future (water) reserves would be lost,' said Hancock.

Roosevelt city leaders signed an agreement last year with Montwell/Cedarview officials to provide culinary water to the neighboring communities that have no other means of obtaining it now that private wells throughout the area have gone bad.

"We view this as a setback — it slows down the plans that we have to assist our neighbors in Cedarview and Montwell; it damages that to some degree," said Cowan. Neola is another area that is served by Roosevelt's culinary water system.

Some of those who protested the city's water application stand to benefit themselves if additional culinary water is made available, said Hancock.

"It is going to cripple us all and they don't even realize that ... maybe they will when the price of water goes up, or when rationing occurs," he said.

Projections from the city showed that the Durigan water source could supply 1,000 families with culinary water. Five hundred families are currently waiting for culinary water in the Cedarview and Montwell areas.

"All we have to do is hook it into the system ... no one knows how critical that need is, except those who are waiting for a good drink of water," said Hancock.

Public hearings on the city's application were held in 2005. At that time Neola area farmers and ranchers told state water officials that the city's use of the Hayden Wells was having a detrimental impact on their livelihoods and diverting water from the Durigan Springs site would further cripple their water supply.

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deseretnews.com

Deseret Morning News, Saturday, March 24, 2007

E. coli outbreak linked to ranch field

By Lois M. Collins
Deseret Morning News

The bacteria-contaminated spinach outbreak that reached across 26 states, including Utah, sickening hundreds and killing three, has been traced to a crop field at a cattle ranch in California, according to a report state and federal investigators released Friday.

While the report says the E. coli bacteria likely came from water or wild hogs and was traced to a 50-acre crop field on a cattle ranch in San Benito County, investigators admit they don't know precisely how it got into the spinach. But they said the investigation itself prompted changes and recommendations that will improve future food safety.

Health officials nationwide confirmed 205 cases of illness from the outbreak but estimate the number of those sickened to reach into the thousands, since only the most severe cases are typically reported. Of the 103 people hospitalized, nearly one-third developed hemolytic-uremic syndrome. HUS can destroy kidney function and even kill.

During a conference call with reporters Friday afternoon, officials from the Food and Drug Administration and the California Department of Human Services, which together formed a "rapid response team" to investigate, said during the six-month query they were able to genetically trace an exact strain of bacteria from the individual it made sick backward to the product and then to the farm where it was grown.

"It's one of the first times we've been able to do that," said Dr. Kevin Reilly, deputy director of CDHS. The findings, he added, "help to inform prevention." Even during the investigation, changes were made to reduce the risk of contaminating food.

The ready-to-eat spinach, sold as Dole brand Baby Spinach, was traced to four fields in the central coast region of California. And while E. coli was found near each of the four fields, investigators matched the exact strain found in bagged spinach from people who were sickened last fall to samples of river water, cattle and wild pig feces and soil at or near the cattle ranch, which leased the crop field on which the spinach was grown to Mission Organics.

That's where officials believe the contamination occurred, but they said it could have been spread during bagging and processing at the Natural Selection Foods packaging plant in San Juan Bautista.

The group also released recommendations, calling for risk assessment and remediation in cases where ready-to-eat crops are grown near livestock or livestock waste. They also call for frequent testing of irrigation water, new steps for sanitizing harvesting equipment and changes in the processing of the food, among others.

The fact that the investigators found a number of places in the food production process, from the field to the processing plant, "points out the urgent need for research" to understand how pathogens flourish in such an environment, said Dr. David Acheson, chief medical officer of the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition in the FDA. "I suspect there are multiple ways to prevent movement of the bug."

"Where animals and wildlife exist, we will have the potential for E. coli to be present. If we can put into place good agricultural practices, we can manage the risk," Reilly said.

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Wasatch Mountains

Panels to focus on canyon uses

By Mike Gorrell
The Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated:03/02/2007 11:40:51 PM MST

After the idea was floated last fall to develop tunnels to interlink the Cottonwood canyons and Park City ski resorts, Gov. Jon Huntsman Jr. asked smart-growth advocate Robert Grow to oversee a committee to explore the possibilities and pitfalls.

Grow organized the committee's second meeting on Friday, suggesting the best way to proceed was to subdivide into three subcommittees that would focus on different issues pertinent to any proposed uses of Wasatch Mountain canyons - not just interconnecting tunnels.

After nearly 90 minutes of debate Friday, there was no consensus that this was the best approach to take.

Salt Lake City attorney Pat Shea was particularly critical, protesting that the neutrality of the process could be tainted if issues such as transportation are explored in depth before the overall group determined what it hoped to accomplish.

But Grow prevailed, contending the only way to make progress was to move past philosophical discussions and "get down to details."

To critics of the process like Shea, he invited them to be on all three subcommittees so they could make sure one area of emphasis doesn't get ahead of the others and exert undue influence on the ultimate conclusion.

"I'd like to get people focusing on answers to key questions," he said. "If one [subcommittee] is a cart and one's a horse, rather than the cart getting before the horse I'd like them to go side by side."

Friday at the state Capitol, three subcommittees will meet one after the other to explore issues related to recreational use of the Wasatch. The meetings are open to the public.

First off is the "Economic Development and Related Impacts Committee" at 1 p.m.

It will be charged with exploring how the mountains handle increased tourism, who benefits economically, whether resorts can maintain their individual characters, the impacts of and on backcountry skiing and summer recreation, the effects of connecting resorts in one way or another, and the quality of the recreational experience.

At 2:15 p.m., the "Mountain Transportation Committee" will take over.

Its focus will be on various transportation options - from ski lifts and gondolas to tunnels, light rail and road improvements - and their ability to handle growth and increased tourism, to lessen canyon traffic, and the implications for air quality and public safety.

The "Watershed and Technology Committee" then will meet at 3:30 p.m. to look at watershed protection and hydrology and the environmental impacts of various transportation and interconnect options, including tunneling.

Participants in Friday's meeting represented Ski Utah and four individual ski resorts, Salt Lake City Water Department, Save Our Canyons, U.S. Forest Service, Utah Department of Transportation, Town of Alta , Goldman Sachs, Wells Fargo Bank, Black Diamond Equipment Inc. and Sen. Carlene Walker, R-Cottonwood Heights.

mikeg@sltrib.com

Standard-Examiner

Story View

Ogden needs a water-rate study

Monday, March 5, 2007

By Mark Danenhauer
Guest commentary

Each morning many of us wake up and begin our day in the bathroom where we turn on the faucet or shower and -- usually -- clear water comes out.

However, more and more frequently residents of Ogden are instead confronted by discolored and silt-filled water, a signal that our aging infrastructure is in desperate need of repair.

The need for repair is complicated by a serious budget crisis facing the city's water utility. Ogden has been under-pricing water, so the true cost of this resource is not captured in our water rates.

The result is that the city has been unable to generate enough revenue to operate the utility, let alone pay for upgrades to the system, estimated to be $130 million dollars.

These infrastructure repairs are extremely important to ensure the delivery of clean water to residents. Failing to act now to make necessary repairs could result in a system failure; which would be much more costly to fix and impair the quality of life that Ogden citizens cherish.

How did we get here? From 1986 through 1996, the city did not raise water rates at all, despite a 40 percent inflation rate during that time. By not keeping up with inflation to cover the cost increases for water rights, treatment and delivery infrastructure, Ogden now is forced to play catch up.

The city took one good step forward in 2002 when it adopted an increasing block rate structure. This design is fundamentally fair, with customers charged on the basis of the costs they impose on the utility. Customers who use more water pay more. This structure reflects the burden high volume users place on the utility, expediting the need for infrastructure upgrades and finding new supplies.

Eventually the citizens of Ogden will have to address the infrastructure problems of the city's aging water system, and as emphasized by City Council in the 2006 City Budget "to delay maintenance on the city's facilities means the repairs will cost our taxpayers more in the future."

These words are fine; but now it's time for action.

If the city were to adjust its water rate structure just slightly, it could generate nearly $1 million more each year. This revenue increase would come with minimal impact to residents of Ogden, costing only about $3 a month less than the cost of a gallon of orange juice, and well below the annual increases that have been imposed for electricity. It seems like a good investment to stave off even greater costs in the future.

Ultimately it comes down to whether Ogden's municipal leaders have the foresight to make a decision that at first glance appears to be unfavorable, but in the long run will save us all money. When I am making decisions about how to manage my money and pay the bills, I always try to make the most prudent choices. I would much rather pay a few extra dollars each month now rather than getting stuck with a huge bill for thousands of dollars at some point in the future. I expect my city leaders to manage Ogden's money like I manage mine.

As the elected officials of our city are the ultimate decision makers when it comes to water rates, the City Council and the mayor should help to protect our water-delivery system and our wallets by adjusting our water rates to ensure that delivery of high-quality water to our homes continues uninterrupted long into the future. The best way to do this is to conduct a comprehensive water-rate study. This will give Ogden a realistic picture of the current situation within the public utility for

water and make some recommendations on how to improve the water rates to best meet the city's needs now and into the future.

Danenhauer is river solutions coordinator for the Utah Rivers Council.

AGENDA ITEM 13

LETTERS

April 20, 2007

Circleville Town
P.O. Box 149
Circleville, Utah 84723

Dear Water System Manager:

Subject: Notice of Violation and Administrative Order, Circleville Drinking Water System #16002

Circleville Drinking Water System is a public water system and as such is subject to the Administrative Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems (copy available upon request). Under Utah Administrative Code R309-100-4 a water system is considered to be a public water system, when 25 or more people are served water for at least 60 days, or 15 or more water system connections are served, even though the water system is privately held. Circleville has approximately 500 users with about 200 connections, and is therefore, a public water system.

In the last year of operation, 215 violation points have been assessed against the Circleville Drinking Water System. Under our Improvement Priority System (IPS) community water systems exceeding 150 points are rated "Not Approved" and placed on a priority list for enforcement actions. The Circleville Drinking Water System is currently rated "Not Approved" by our office. Further, because of these violations, the Drinking Water Board is issuing the attached Notice of Violations and Order to ensure compliance.

Please give this order your immediate attention. **A written response is required within 30 days after receipt of this NOTICE. This order is fully enforceable unless appealed in writing within 30 days, as described in the "Notice" section of the Notice of Violation and Order. Any response or written answer to this NOV should be addressed to Kenneth H. Bousfield, P.E., Executive Secretary, Drinking Water Board, P.O. Box 144830, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4830.**

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

If you have any questions, or wish to review the water system on-site please call John Oakeson, of my staff, at (801) 536-0057. A phone call to the Division of Drinking Water or an on-site visit does not alter the requirement to timely respond in writing if you wish to contest this notice and order.

Sincerely,

DRINKING WATER BOARD

Kenneth H. Bousfield, P.E.
Executive Secretary

JHO

Attachments

cc: John Vercoe, Environmental Health Director, Central Utah Public Health Department
Roger A. Foisy, P.E., District Engineer
Kathelene Brainch, EPA, Region VIII
System file #16002

F:joakeson\Administrative Orders\Circleville\AO Circleville_16002_ letter.doc

DRINKING WATER BOARD

In the Matter of the Circleville Drinking Water System #16002	Notice of Violation and Order Case No. 07160021

The Drinking Water Board ("Board") issues this Notice of Violation and Order under the Utah Safe Drinking Water Act ("Act"), including Utah Administrative Code ("UAC") sections 19-4-104, -105, -106, -107, and -109, and in accordance with the Utah Administrative Procedures Act section 63-46b, et seq.

FACTS AND VIOLATIONS

1. The Circleville Drinking Water System water system is a public water system in Piute County that provides drinking water to an estimated 500 people through approximately 200 active connections. There is no Administrative Contact listed on the Division of Drinking Water records for the Circleville Drinking Water System.

2. A copy of Circleville Drinking Water System's IPS report (included with Public Water system Master Report – Attachment C) documents that 215 IPS points have been assessed against the water system as of April 10, 2007.

3. Based on the Division of Drinking Water's records, the Circleville Water System has bacteriologic quality and monitoring violations in violation of UAC R309-210-5 as follows:

    A. Failure to take Routine bacteriological samples May of 2006.

4. Circleville Drinking Water System has failed to provide public notice for the bacteriologic violation listed under item #3. This is a violation of UAC R309-220-4.

5. The Circleville Water System has failed to provide a functional cross connection control program in violation of UAC R309-105-12.

6. The Circleville Water System does not have a certified operator in violation of UAC R309-105-11.

7. The air/vacuum release valves on the distribution system lack #14 mesh screens This is a violation of UAC R309-550-6(6)(a).

8. Cottonwood Canyon Spring has deep rooted vegetation in the spring collection area. This is a violation of UAC R309-515-7(7)(f).

9. Wade Canyon Spring has roots in spring box. This is a violation of UAC R309-515-8(1)(a).

10. Cottonwood Canyon Spring collection box does not have a proper shoebox lid. This is a violation of UAC R309-515-7(7)(d).

11. Cottonwood Canyon Spring collection box lacks an adequate air vent. This is a violation of UAC R309-515-7(7)(d).

12. Cottonwood Canyon Spring collection box lacks raised assess entry. This is a violation of UAC R309-515-7(7)(d).

13. Cottonwood Canyon Spring collection boxes are not adequately secured. This is a violation of UAC R309-515-7(7)(d).

14. Cottonwood Canyon Spring collection box overflow/drain does not have adequate freefall. This is a violation of UAC R309-515-7(7)(d).

15. Storage Reservoir 1 air vent is not adequately screened. This is a violation of UAC R309-545-15(6) & (7).

16. Storage Reservoir 1 is missing gasket on access cover. This is a violation of UAC R309-545-14(2).

17. Storage Reservoir 1 overflow is improperly screened. This is a violation of UAC R309-545-13(3).

18. Storage Reservoir 1 access hatch is not secure. This is a violation of UAC R309-545-14(3).

ORDER

As a part of your responsibilities, under Utah Administrative Code R309-100-9, the management of the Circleville Drinking Water System is hereby ordered to provide the Division of Drinking Water with written evidence of completion of the following items according to the deadlines given below:

1. Circleville Drinking Water System must provide the Board with evidence that a public notice has been given to each of your customers by mail and newspaper for item #3 and #4 as listed in FACTS AND VIOLATIONS above. This must include proof of publication regarding the violations listed above as required by UAC R309-220-4. This notice shall include an explanation of all violations and the actions taken by the water system management to prevent further violations. The notice shall contain the words and/or information outlined in attachment A of this Order, including proof of publication within 30 days of receipt of this letter. A copy of the notice and proof of publication shall be provided to the Division within 45 days of receipt of this letter.

2. The Circleville Water System must develop a cross-connection control program to include the following components: (1) legally adopted and functional authority to enforce a cross connection control program, (2) provide public education or awareness materials, (3) an operator with adequate training in the area of cross connection control or backflow prevention, (4) written records of cross connection control activities, (5) documentation of on-going cross connection enforcement activities within 60 days of the receipt of this Notice of Violation and Order.

3. The Circleville Water System must have a certified operator for the system by December 31, 2007. This operator must be certified at a minimum as a Distribution Small System classification.

4. The Circleville Water System must correct physical deficiencies #s 7-18 as listed in FACTS ABND VIOLATIONS above within 60 days of the receipt of this Notice of Violation and Order.

NOTICE

If the management of Circleville Drinking Water System wishes to contest this "Notice of Violation and Order", you must respond in writing and request a hearing before the Board. The response and request for hearing must be received by the Executive Secretary (at the address below) within 30 days of the date shown on the certificate of mailing. See Utah Code Annotated section 63-46b-3 (2)(a)(vi) and section 63-46b-12. **If you do not request a hearing in writing and participate in the hearing, the Order will become final and you will not be allowed to contest this Notice of Violation in court.** See Utah Code Annotated section 63-46b-14 (2). Utah Code Annotated section 19-4-109 states that anyone who violates the Utah Safe Drinking Water Act, permit, rule, or order is subject to a civil penalty of up to $1,000 per day of violation. Willful violators may be fined up to $5,000 per day.

Issued this 20 day of April, 2007.

DRINKING WATER BOARD

By: Kenneth Mousfield

Kenneth H. Bousfield, P.E.
Executive Secretary
Drinking Water Board
C/O Division of Drinking Water
P.O. Box 144830
Salt Lake City, Utah 84414-4830
Phone: (801) 536-4200

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that on April 20, 2007, I caused to be mailed a true and correct copy of the Foregoing NOTICE OF VIOLATION AND ORDER to:

BY CERTIFIED MAIL TO:

Circleville Town
P.O. Box 149
Circleville, Utah 84723

BY REGULAR MAIL TO:

Fred Nelson
Assistant Attorney General
160 East 300 South, Third Floor
P.O. Box 140873
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-0873

Kenneth H. Bousfield, P.E.
Executive Secretary

Attachment A

Explanation and Required Elements for Public Notice To Be Sent to Each Customer of Your Water System. The following violations have occurred for the Circleville Drinking Water System:

Failure to take additional bacteriological samples May 2006.

Circleville Drinking Water System must monitor for bacteriologic quality on a monthly basis. When a violation occurs, we must notify our customers in writing. A major monitoring violation occurs when no samples were collected during the month. For Circleville Drinking Water System, one bacteriologic sample must be collected each month. If a sample is unsatisfactory, at least four "repeat" samples must be collected DURING THE SAME MONTH. In addition, the following month, at least five additional samples must be collected. A major repeat monitoring violation occurs when no "repeat" samples are collected for any unsatisfactory sample. A non-acute MCL Quality violation occurs when a system collecting less than 40 total coliform samples per month has one or more total coliform-positive sample during the month.

Bacteriologic sampling is performed because the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has determined that the presence of total coliforms (the organism tested for) is a possible health concern. Total coliforms are common in the environment and are generally not harmful themselves. The presence of these bacteria in drinking water, however, generally is a result of a problem with water treatment or the pipes which distribute the water, and indicates that the water may be contaminated with organisms that can cause disease. Disease symptoms may include: diarrhea, cramps, nausea, possibly jaundice, and any associated headaches and fatigue. These symptoms, however, are not just associated with disease-causing organisms in drinking water, but also may be caused by a number of factors other than your drinking water. EPA has set an enforceable drinking water standard for total coliforms to reduce the risk of these adverse health effects. Under this standard, no more than one total coliform-positive sample per month may be present. Drinking water which meets this standard is usually not associated with a health risk from disease-causing bacteria and should be considered safe.

Finally, Circleville Drinking Water System management should include a brief statement describing why the violations occurred (perhaps the sampler was not aware of the sampling requirements) and what you are doing to prevent the violations discussed above from re-occurring (perhaps by saying he/she is receiving additional sampling training, etc.).

ATTACHMENT B

Sanitary Survey results of survey conducted September 14, 2005 by Nathan Lunstad, P.E. of the Division of Drinking Water staff.

State of Utah

Department of Environmental Quality

Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D.
Executive Director

DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER
Kevin W. Brown, P.E.
Director

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

October 11, 2005

John O

FILE COPY

Mr. Marty Morgan
Circleville Town
PO Box 149
Circleville, Utah 84723

Mr. Morgan:

Subject: Fiscal Year 2005 Sanitary Survey Results for the Town of Circleville (System #16002)

On September 14, 2005, the Division of Drinking Water (DDW) staff conducted a sanitary survey of the Circleville water system. The sanitary survey consisted of inspection of the system's water sources, storage tanks, and distribution system. The results are summarized in the attached report.

The Circleville drinking water system is classified as a *community water system*. R309-150 states that a *community water system* must maintain a point total **less than 150 points** to qualify for an approved rating. The sanitary survey findings for your physical facilities have resulted in the assessment of **140 points** against your water system. Please be aware that additional points or credits may apply to your water system for monitoring and administrative issues not reflected in the above points.

R309-150 of the Utah Administrative Code (the Improvement Priority System Rules) addresses rating criteria for public drinking water systems. According to the Improvement Priority System (IPS), points are assessed to each water system for the deficiencies found. Please note that points are only counted once for each deficiency, even though it may occur in multiple locations.

Points accumulated during a sanitary survey will only become part of your total points if corrections are not made on or before the date that has been set next to each item. Please notify the Division of Drinking Water when corrections are made, and if necessary, arrange a follow-up inspection so the points assessed to your water system can be accordingly adjusted.

Summary of Deficiencies and Recommendations

Location and Deficiency	Points
Cottonwood Canyon Spring – could not find. Please verify these items	
No sample tap	0
Housed in permanent structure	0
Overflow pipe properly screened and provided with 12" free fall	10
Roots in collection line	10
Proper shoe box lid on spring box	5
Proper vent line for collection box	5
Proper clearance of collection box above ground surface	5
Spring box properly secured	5
Recommended to extend fence to prevent livestock entering collection area	0
Cross Connection Control Program	
No legally adopted authority statement	10
No annual public awareness	10
No trained staff	10
No record keeping of cross connection	10
No on-going enforcement plan	10
250,000 Gallon Storage Tank	
Access hatch missing lock	10
Vent missing #14 screen	5
Missing gasket on access cover	10
Missing #4 screen on overflow/drain line	5
Recommended to repair cracks and chips on tank roof	0
Recommended to seal around box for water level penetration	0
Recommended to clean out under overflow/drain line to create more free fall	0
300 South Well	
Install hose bib vacuum breaker on hose bib	0
Recommended to replace pressure gauge	0
Recommended to better secure screen on pump to waste line	0
Water lines from springs to storage tank	
Missing #14 screens on several of the vents	20
Wade Canyon Spring - Off line due to destruction of area by forest fire	
Submit plans and specifications to DDW prior to reconstruction of spring	
Point Subtotal	140
Credited Points	
Emergency Response Program	10
Financial Management Plan	10
Total Points	**120**

The 50 points associated with the cross connection control program and the 40 points associated with being unable to verify items on the Cottonwood Spring will be relatively easy to correct or verify to prevent against being assessed against the Circleville water system. Contact Michael

Moss with DDW at 801-536-0089 or msmoss@utah.gov for information on correcting the points associated with cross connection control.

The DDW appreciates your and Daniel Whittaker's assistance in completing this survey. If you require any further information on your sanitary survey results, you may contact me at 801-536-0069 or nlunstad@utah.gov.

Sincerely,

Nathan Lunstad, P.E.
Environmental Engineer

Attachments

cc: Bruce Costa, Central Utah Health Department, 70 Westview Drive, Richfield, Utah 84701
Roger Foisy, Central Utah District Engineer, 70 Westview Drive, Richfield, Utah 84701
Correy Fullmer, Circleville Town, PO Box 149, Circleville, Utah 84723
DDW File Copy

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Sanitary Survey Questions for Circleville - PWS Number 16002

Priority Number	Question Number	Multi-Use Number		

General / SS Organization

Inspection:

6	Facility walk-thru. (If multiple dates, list first day of survey)	09/14/2005

General / Background Info

Name/Location:

1	Name of public water system:	Circleville
2	PWS number:	16002
3	Physical address	PO Box 149, Circleville, UT 84723
6	County:	Piute

General / Background Info

Classification:

6	Number of service connections:	215
6.1	Number of residential connections:	170
6.2	Number of commercial and industrial connections.	30
7	Residential population:	500

General / Background Info

Previous Survey Info:

1	Date of last sanitary survey:	10/08/2002

2	**Last survey conducted by**	
2.1	Name	Bruce Costa
2.2	Organization	Central Utah Public Health Department
2.3	Phone:	435-896-5451

General / Background Info

Current Survey Info / History:

1.1	If yes, list violations	

General / Background Info

Current Survey Info / Participants:

1	Current Survey Date:	09/14/2005
2	**Survey performed by:**	
2.1	Name	Nathan Lunstad
2.2	Title	Environmental Engineer
2.3	Organization	Division of Drinking Water
3	**Water system representatives present during the survey:**	
3.1	Name #1:	Daniel Whittaker

Priority Number	Question Number	Multi-Use Number		

Regulations / Plans/Records

1	1		Is a total coliform rule (TCR) sample siting plan available for review?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
1	1.1		Does the (TCR) sample siting plan meet the minimum requirements?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown

Management / Cross-Connections

	3		Does the water system have the following elements of a written cross-connection control program ?	
	3.01		Legally adopted authority statement?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	3.02		Documentation of annual public awareness and/or employee training?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	3.03		Documentation of personnel trained to manage the program with documentation?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	3.04		Records of hazards found, protection required and installed, enforcement actions, assembly testing etc.?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	3.05		Documentation of on-going program enforcement? (ie records of periodic hazard assessments, annual test report, updated assembly inventory, etc)	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown

Sources / Groundwater

Wells 1 - 300 S. Ctr / Security:

2	1		Is the wellhead properly protected against unauthorized personnel?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown

Sources / Groundwater

Wells 1 - 300 S. Ctr / Construction:

2	4		Does the casing extend a minimum of 18 inches above the finished ground surface or 12 inches above the well house floor?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown

Priority Number	Question Number	Multi-Use Number		
3	5		Is grouting or a concrete pad surrounding the casing at the well?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
1	6		Is the sanitary seal properly installed and maintained?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
2	9		Is the discharge line from the well equipped with the necessary valves and appurtenances to allow the well to be pumped to waste via an approved air gap?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown

Sources / Groundwater

Wells 1 - 300 S. Ctr / Pumping Stations:

	1		Where does this pumping station pump from and to?	From well to storage tank/distribution system
	2		Is the building and equipment protected from flooding?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	5		Are cross-connections present in pumping stations?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
Flagged for Follow-up			Notes: Hose bib inside building needs a hose bib vacuum breaker	
	6		Is proper drainage provided?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	8		What type of pump(s) are at this pumping station?	☑ Vertical Turbine ☐ Submersible ☐ Jet ☐ Horizontal / Split Case ☐ Other
	9		Is each pump discharge line equipped with and in the order of placement:	
	9.1		a smooth-nosed sampling tap?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	9.2		a positive-acting check valve between the pump and the isolation valve?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	9.3		pressure gauge?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
Flagged for Follow-up			Notes: Needs to be replaced - broken	
	9.4		flow meter?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown

Priority Number	Question Number	Multi-Use Number		
	9.5		isolation gate valves?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	10		**Where a well pumps directly into a distribution system, is an air release valve located between the source and check valve? (Recommended for Vertical Turbine Pumps)**	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	10.1		Is the discharge line from the air release valve properly downturned, screened with #14 mesh corrosion resistant mesh screen and has the proper air gap?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	12		**Is a pump to waste line present?**	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	12.1		Is the line properly screened with a #4 non-corrodible mesh screen?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
Flagged for Follow-up			Notes: Needs to be more tightly secured to end of pipe.	
	12.2		Is the line properly air gapped?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown

Sources / Groundwater

Springs 2 - Cotton Wood / General:

2	1		Is a proper sample tap provided?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
Potential Deficiency				
Flagged for Follow-up			Notes: Couldn't find - please verify	
3	2		Is a flow meter or other flow measuring device provided?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
			Notes: Located near storage tank	

Sources / Groundwater

Springs 2 - Cotton Wood / SW Protection:

2	1		Is the spring housed in a permanent structure and protected from contamination including the entry of surface water, animals and dust?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
Potential Deficiency				
Flagged for Follow-up			Notes: Couldn't find - please verify	
2	2		Is the site subject to flooding?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
2	3		Is the area upgradient within 50 feet of the spring collection devices fenced to prevent access by livestock and sources of contamination?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
2	4		Is surface water and drainage ditches diverted from the 50 feet protection zone around the spring?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown

Sources / Groundwater

Springs 2 - Cotton Wood / Construction:

2	1	Is the overflow and/or drain pipe properly screened (#4 mesh) and have a minimum of 12 inches freefall?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
Potential Deficiency / Flagged for Follow-up		Notes: Found possible overflow - not screened (this probably was on the Forest Service system)	
	2	Is the spring collection area developed to minimize ponding of surface water?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	3	Does the spring have 10 feet of impervious soil cover or two feet of cover with an acceptable liner?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	4	Is the spring collection area void of deep rooted vegetation?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	5	Is there any evidence of roots in the collection lines?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
Flagged for Follow-up		Notes: Couldn't find - please verify	
	6	**Is a spring collection box present?**	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
Flagged for Follow-up		Notes: Couldn't find - please verify	
	6.1	Does the spring box have a proper shoe box type lid?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
Flagged for Follow-up		Notes: Couldn't find - please verify	
	6.2	Is the lid properly gasketed?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☑ Unknown
Flagged for Follow-up		Notes: Couldn't find - please verify	
	6.3	If a vent is present on the spring or collection box is it properly down-turned, screened (#14 mesh) and air gapped?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
		Notes: Couldn't find - please verify	
	6.4	Is the access to the spring box at least 18 inches above the ground surface or 4 inches above a concrete surface?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
Flagged for Follow-up		Notes: Couldn't find - please verify	
	6.5	Is the spring box secured against unauthorized entry?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
Flagged for Follow-up		Notes: Couldn't find - please verify	

Sources / Groundwater

Springs 3 - Wade Cyn / General:

2	1	Is a proper sample tap provided?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☑ NA ☐ Unknown
		Notes: Off line due to forest fire and destruction of collection area	

Priority Number	Question Number	Multi-Use Number		
3	2		Is a flow meter or other flow measuring device provided?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☑ NA ☐ Unknown
			Notes: Off line due to forest fire and destruction of collection area	

Sources / Groundwater

Springs 3 - Wade Cyn / SW Protection:

2	1		Is the spring housed in a permanent structure and protected from contamination including the entry of surface water, animals and dust?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☑ NA ☐ Unknown
			Notes: Off line due to forest fire and destruction of collection area	
2	2		Is the site subject to flooding?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
2	3		Is the area upgradient within 50 feet of the spring collection devices fenced to prevent access by livestock and sources of contamination?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☑ NA ☐ Unknown
			Notes: Livestock have recently entered the site due to the destruction of the fences	
2	4		Is surface water and drainage ditches diverted from the 50 feet protection zone around the spring?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☑ NA ☐ Unknown
			Notes: Off line due to forest fire and destruction of collection area	

Sources / Groundwater

Springs 3 - Wade Cyn / Construction:

2	1		Is the overflow and/or drain pipe properly screened (#4 mesh) and have a minimum of 12 inches freefall?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☑ NA ☐ Unknown
			Notes: Off line due to forest fire and destruction of collection area	
	2		Is the spring collection area developed to minimize ponding of surface water?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☑ NA ☐ Unknown
			Notes: Off line due to forest fire and destruction of collection area	
	3		Does the spring have 10 feet of impervious soil cover or two feet of cover with an acceptable liner?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☑ NA ☐ Unknown
			Notes: Off line due to forest fire and destruction of collection area	
	4		Is the spring collection area void of deep rooted vegetation?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☑ NA ☐ Unknown
			Notes: Vegitation will need to be removed	
	5		Is there any evidence of roots in the collection lines?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☑ NA ☐ Unknown
	6		**Is a spring collection box present?**	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	6.1		Does the spring box have a proper shoe box type lid?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☑ NA ☐ Unknown
			Notes: Spring box will need to be reconditioned to be in compliance	

6.2	Is the lid properly gasketed?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☑ NA ☐ Unknown
	Notes: Spring box will need to be reconditioned to be in compliance	
6.3	If a vent is present on the spring or collection box is it properly down-turned, screened (#14 mesh) and air gapped?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☑ NA ☐ Unknown
	Notes: Spring box will need to be reconditioned to be in compliance	
6.4	Is the access to the spring box at least 18 inches above the ground surface or 4 inches above a concrete surface?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☑ NA ☐ Unknown
	Notes: Spring box will need to be reconditioned to be in compliance	
6.5	Is the spring box secured against unauthorized entry?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown

Storage / Gravity 1 - 250000 gal

Design:

2	Is the area surrounding the ground-level storage structure graded in a manner that will prevent surface water from standing within 50 feet of it?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
3	Does the storage reservoir have a watertight roof or cover and is it sloped so that water will drain?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown

Storage / Gravity 1 - 250000 gal

Components:

2	**Are air vents:**	
2.01	Turned downward or covered from rain?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
2.02	Terminated at a minimum of 24 to 36 inches above the surface of storage tank roof?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
2.03	Screened with #14 non-corrodable mesh screen with a larger guage protection screen (ie #4)?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	Notes: Missing #14 screen	
3	Are access opening covers greater than or equal to 4 inches above the tank roof surface (18 inches above any earthen cover)?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
4	Is the access opening overlapping, water tight, and the the lid properly gasketed?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
	Notes: Gasket needs to be repaired/replaced with NSF approved gasket	

Priority Number	Question Number	Multi-Use Number			
	5		Are outside access hatches locked?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown	
			Notes: Hatch missing lock		
	6		Is there a roof penetration for a water level indicator cable, if so does the cable pass through a tight-fitting grommet?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown	
Flagged for Follow-up			Notes: Recommended to seal around box to prevent water from accumulating around penetration		
	8		**Are overflow pipes:**		
	8.01		Terminated 12 to 24 inches above the ground?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown	
Flagged for Follow-up			Notes: Recommended to clean out around discharge line to create air gap		
	8.02		Screened with #4 mesh non-corrodable screen?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown	
Flagged for Follow-up			Notes: Missing screen - recommended to flush line before installing screen		
	9		If a drain line is present, is it properly screened with #4 mesh non-corrodible mesh screen and discharge through a physical air gap of at least 2 pipe diameters?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown	
Flagged for Follow-up			Notes: Overflow or drain line is missing screen		

Storage / Gravity 1 - 250000 gal

Maintenance:

	1		Are there cracks in the walls or covers of the in-ground concrete storage tanks?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown	
Flagged for Follow-up			Notes: Recommended to repair surface cracks and chipping		

Distribution System 1 - / Design

3	5		Are all materials used in the system manufactured according to ANSI/AWWA Standards?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☑ Unknown
3	6		Are water and sewer (sanitary or storm) mains separated by a horizontal distance of 10 ft. or greater?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown

Distribution System 1 - / Pressure/Flow

2	1		Is the PWS capable of providing sufficient water during maximum hourly demand conditions (including fire flow) to maintain a minimum pressure of 20 psi within the system measured at all points of connections?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
3	2		Does the system maintain a minimum working pressure of 35 psi and a normal working pressure of 60 psi measured at the consumer's tap?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown

Priority Number	Question Number	Multi-Use Number		
3	4		Is the fire flow adequate?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown

Distribution System 1 - / Air & Vacuum Release Valves

1	Are air and vacuum release valves used in the system?	☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
1.01	Is the vent line properly screened (#14 mesh) and down turned?	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA ☐ Unknown
Flagged for Follow-up	Notes: Several of the vents on the lines from the springs to the tank are missing screens	

Deficiency Report

System: Circleville
PWS #: 16002
Location:
Region:
Survey Date: 10/11/2005
Surveyed By: Nathan Lunstad
SurveyID: 85

Circleville - PWS Number 16002

Priority Level 2

Sources / Groundwater / Springs 2 - Cotton Wood / General

Is a proper sample tap provided?

Answer Recorded: No

Comments:

Sources / Groundwater / Springs 2 - Cotton Wood / SW Protection

Is the spring housed in a permanent structure and protected from contamination including the entry of surface water, animals and dust?

Answer Recorded: No

Comments:

Sources / Groundwater / Springs 2 - Cotton Wood / Construction

Is the overflow and/or drain pipe properly screened (#4 mesh) and have a minimum of 12 inches freefall?

Answer Recorded: No

Comments: **R309-515-7(7)(d) references R309-545-10(1) which requires #4 mesh screen and a minimum of a 12 inch freefall on the drain line. 0 to 10 demerit points based on the presence and condition of the screen and the amount of free fall and slope & drainage of the area around the outlet. This deficiency should be corrected immediately.**

No Priority Level Assigned

Management / Cross-Connections

Legally adopted authority statement?

Answer Recorded: No

Comments: R309-105-12(2)(a) requires each public water system to have a cross connection control program which includes a legally adopted and functional local authority statement. 10 demerit points. This deficiency should be corrected within 90 days of notification.

Documentation of annual public awareness and/or employee training?

Answer Recorded: No

Comments: R309-105-12(2)(b) requires each public water system to have a cross connection control program which includes providing public education or awareness material. 10 demerit points. This deficiency should be corrected within 90 days of notification.

Documentation of personnel trained to manage the program with documentation?

Answer Recorded: No

Comments: R309-105-12(2)(c) requires each public water system to have a cross connection control program which includes an operator with adequate training in the area of cross connection control or backflow prevention. 10 demerit points. This deficiency should be corrected within 90 days of notification.

Records of hazards found, protection required and installed, enforcement actions, assembly testing etc.?

Answer Recorded: No

Comments: R309-105-12(2)(d) requires each public water system to have a cross connection control program which includes written records of cross connection control activities. 10 demerit points. This deficiency should be corrected within 90 days of notification.

Documentation of on-going program enforcement? (ie records of periodic hazard assessments, annual test report, updated assembly inventory, etc)

Answer Recorded: No

Comments: R309-105-12(2)(e) requires each public water system to have a cross connection control program which includes test history and documentation of on-going enforcement. 10 demerit points. This deficiency should be corrected within 90 days of notification.

Sources / Groundwater / Wells 1 - 300 S. Ctr / Pumping Stations

Are cross-connections present in pumping stations?

Answer Recorded: Yes

Comments: R309-550-9 prohibits any unprotected cross connections from being built into water system facilities.

Sources / Groundwater / Springs 2 - Cotton Wood / Construction

Is there any evidence of roots in the collection lines?

Answer Recorded: Yes

Comments: R309-515-8(1)(a) states periodic cleaning of the collection area may be necessary in order to prevent roots from clogging collection lines. 10 demerit points. This deficiency should be corrected within 90 days of notification.

No Priority Level Assigned

Sources / Groundwater / Springs 2 - Cotton Wood / Construction

Does the spring box have a proper shoe box type lid?

Answer Recorded: No

Comments: R309-515-7(7)(d) refers to R309-545-14(2) which requires a raised shoe box type lid with a 2 inch overlap and a gasket between the lid and frame. 5 demerit points. This deficiency should be corrected within 90 days of notification.

If a vent is present on the spring or collection box is it properly down-turned, screened (#14 mesh) and air gapped?

Answer Recorded: No

Comments: R309-515-7(7)(d) refers to R309-545-15 which requires structures that are vented to be screened with #14 mesh screen, downturned and be located to prevent blockage. 5 demerit points. This deficiency should be corrected within 90 days of notification.

Is the access to the spring box at least 18 inches above the ground surface or 4 inches above a concrete surface?

Answer Recorded: No

Comments: R309-515-7(7)(d) refers to R309-545-14(1) which requires the access to be 18 inches above the ground surface or 4 inches above a concrete surface. 5 demerit points. This deficiency should be corrected within 90 days of notification.

Is the spring box secured against unauthorized entry?

Answer Recorded: No

Comments: R309-515-7(7)(d) refers to R309-545-14(3) which requires the lid to any access opening to be locked. 5 demerit points. This deficiency should be corrected immediately.

Storage / Gravity 1 - 250000 gal / Components

Screened with #14 non-corrodable mesh screen with a larger guage protection screen (ie #4)?

Answer Recorded: No

Comments: R309-545-15(6) & (7) states that the vent shall be screened with #14 mesh screen protected by an additional heavy guage screen. 5 demerit points. This deficiency should be corrected within 30 days of notification.

Is the access opening overlapping, water tight, and the the lid properly gasketed?

Answer Recorded: No

Comments: R309-545-14(2) states that any access opening have a close fitting solid shoebox type lid which extend down 2 inches and is properly gasketed. 10 demerit points. This deficiency should be corrected within 90 days of notification.

Are outside access hatches locked?

Answer Recorded: No

Comments: R309-545-14(3) requires any access opening shall have a locking device. 10 demerit points. This deficiency should be corrected immediately.

Screened with #4 mesh non-corrodable screen?

Answer Recorded: No

Comments: R309-545-13(3) states all overflow pipes shall be screened with #4 mesh non-corrodible mesh screen. 5 demerit points. This deficiency should be corrected immediately.

No Priority Level Assigned

Distribution System 1 - / Air & Vacuum Release Valves

Is the vent line properly screened (#14 mesh) and down turned?

Answer Recorded: No

Comments: R309-550-6(6)(a) states that the vent pipe on an air relief valve, where possible, shall be extended 1 foot above grade, downturned and provided with #14 non-corridible mesh screen. 2 demerit points each to a maximum of 20. This deficiency should be corrected within 90 days of notification.

ATTACHMENT C

Public Water System Master Report 04/20/2007.

Utah Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Drinking Water
Public Water System Master Report

Run Date: 04/20/07

PWS ID: UTAH16002 **Name:** CIRCLEVILLE

Legal Contact CIRCLEVILLE

Rating: Not Approved
Rating Date: 6/28/06

Address: PO BOX 149
CIRCLEVILLE, UT 84723

Phone Number: 435-577-2881

City Served (Area):

County: PIUTE COUNTY

					Gal/Day	Gal/Min
System Type:	Community	**Last Inv Update:**	3/6/07	**Avg Daily Prod:**	0	0
Activity Status Cd:	Active	**Last Snty Srv Dt:**	09/14/05	**Total Dsgn Cap:**	0	0
Population:	500	**Oper Period:**	1/1 to 12/31	**Total Emerg Cap:**	0	0

Service Connections

Connection Type	Meter Type Code	Meter Size	Number Connections
Residential	Metered	0	200

200 **Total Svc Connections**

Storage

Total Storage: 250,000 GAL Number of Units: 1 Adequate Capacity:

No.	Name	Type	Effective Volume	Constr Matrl	Coating Type	Overflow Elev	Tot Elev Head	Alti Valve	Press'd
ST001	RESERVOIR 1	Ground	250,000 GAL	Concrete		0	0	N	N

Distribution System

Pump Type	Total Dyn Head ft H2O	Total Dyn Head P.S.I.	Pressure Adequate
	0	0	

Sources

No.	Source Name	Status	Source Type	Well Dia.	Appd Dsgn Cap/Meas Flow*	Location Data On File	Water Type	Availability
WS001	CIRCLEVILLE WEL	Active	WL	0	225 GPM	Yes	GW	Seasonal
WS002	COTTONWOOD CANY	Active	SP		50 GPM	Yes	GW	Permenant
WS003	WADE CANYON SPR	Active	SP		0	Yes	GW	Permenant
WS004	OAK BASIN SPR.	Inactive	SP		0	Yes	GW	Other

*Reports measured flow for wells, approved design capacity for all other sources.

Sources Grouped for Sampling Compliance

Source Group ID: UTAH16002-02

Sources in Group

WS002 COTTONWOOD CANY	UTAH16002 CIRCLEVILLE
WS003 WADE CANYON SPR	UTAH16002 CIRCLEVILLE

Sampling and Monitoring Requirements

Total Coliform Rule Monitoring

Sample Count	Sample Type	Sample Frequency	Effective Begin Date	Effective End Date	Seasonal Start	Seasonal End	Analyte Code	Analyte Name
1	Routine	Monthly	12/01/05		1/1	12/31	3100	COLIFORM, TOTAL (TCR)

Non-TCR Individual Analyte Requirements

Facility ID	Facility Name	Analyte Code	Analyte Name	Sample Count	Sample Type	Sample Frequency	Last Sample	Next Sample Between
DS001	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM							
			Lead & Copper	5	Routine	3 years	12/31/07	01/01/08 - 12/31/10
End of monitoring period for summary sampled analytes								
WS001	CIRCLEVILLE WEL							
		1040	NITRATE (AS N)	1	Routine	Year	12/22/06	Calc from last sample & freq
			Radionuclides	1	Routine	9 Years	01/16/03	01/01/12 - 12/31/20
			Inorg & Metals	1	Routine	9 Years	01/16/03	01/01/12 - 12/31/20
			Volatile Organics	1	Routine	3 years	01/16/03	01/01/06 - 12/31/08
			Sulfate	1	Routine	9 Years	01/16/03	01/01/12 - 12/31/20
			Pesticides	1	Routine	3 years	01/16/03	01/01/06 - 12/31/08
WS002	COTTONWOOD CANY							
		1040	NITRATE (AS N)	1	Routine	Year	12/03/06	Calc from last sample & freq
			Inorg & Metals	1	Routine	9 Years	01/16/03	01/01/12 - 12/31/20
			Volatile Organics	1	Routine	6 Years	01/16/03	01/02/09 - 12/31/14
			Sulfate	1	Routine	9 Years	01/16/03	01/01/12 - 12/31/20
			Radionuclides	1	Routine	9 Years	01/16/03	01/01/12 - 12/31/20
WS003	WADE CANYON SPR							
		1040	NITRATE (AS N)	1	Routine	Year	12/03/06	Calc from last sample & freq
			Volatile Organics	1	Routine	6 Years	01/16/03	01/02/09 - 12/31/14
			Inorg & Metals	1	Routine	9 Years	01/16/03	01/01/12 - 12/31/20
			Sulfate	1	Routine	9 Years	01/16/03	01/01/12 - 12/31/20
			Radionuclides	1	Routine	9 Years	01/16/03	01/01/12 - 12/31/20

Improvement Priority System

Total IPS Points: **215** **Rating Date:** 06/28/06 **Rating:** **Not Approved**

Violation Pts*:	35
Admin & Physical Facilities:	150
Operator Certification Pts:	30

* Total violation points may not agree with the detail section. The detail secions show all 'open' violations; the violation points total adjusts for duplicate violations

Physical Facility, Administrative, & Source Protection Deficiencies from Site Visits

Code	Description	Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified	Max Pts
D004	AIR OR VACUUM RELEASE VALVES NOT PROPERLY SCREENED		09/14/05	9/14/2005	10

SEVERAL VENTS ON WATER LINE FROM SPRINGS TO TANK MISSING #14 MESHSCREEN

Code	Description	Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified	Max Pts
M060	OLD FINANCIAL MGMT PLAN IN PLACE		10/08/02	10/8/2002	0

CURRENT FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PLANS

Code	Description	Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified	Max Pts
M003	CCC-LACKS LOCAL AUTHORITY		09/14/05	9/14/2005	10

SYSTEM LACKS LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

Code	Description	Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified	Max Pts
M004	CCC-NO ANNUAL PUBLIC EDUCATION OR AWARENESS		09/14/05	9/14/2005	10

SYSTEM LACKS PUBLIC AWARENESS FOR CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

Code	Description	Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified	Max Pts
M005	CCC-LACKS OPERATOR TRAINING		09/14/05	9/14/2005	10

SYSTEM LACKS TRAINED STAFF FOR CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

Code	Description	Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified	Max Pts
M006	CCC-LACKS WRITTEN RECORDS		09/15/05	9/15/2005	10

SYSTEM LACKS WRITTEN RECORDS FOR CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

Code	Description	Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified	Max Pts
M007	CCC-LACKS ON-GOING ENFORCEMENT PLAN		09/14/05	9/14/2005	10

SYSTEM LACKS ONGOING ENFORCEMENT FOR CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

Physical Facility, Administrative, & Source Protection Deficiencies from Site Visits

Code	Description

SS07 DEEP ROOTED VEGETATION IN SPRING COLLECTION AREA — Max Pts: 10

Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified
WS002 COTTONWOOD CANY	10/08/02	10/8/2002

COTTONWOOD SPRING HAS DEEP ROOTED VEGETATION

SS08 ROOTS IN COLLECTION PIPES — Max Pts: 10

Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified
	10/08/02	10/8/2002

WADE CANYON SPRING BOX HAS ROOTS AND MUST BE CLEANED

SS09 SPRING BOX LACKS SHOE BOX LID — Max Pts: 5

Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified
WS002 COTTONWOOD CANY	09/14/05	9/14/2005

COULD NOT VERIFY THAT COTTONWOOD CANYON SPRINGS HAS PROPER SHOEBOXLID

SS11 SPRING BOX LACKS AN ADEQUATE AIR VENT — Max Pts: 5

Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified
WS002 COTTONWOOD CANY	09/14/05	9/14/2005

COULD NOT VERIFY THAT COTTONWOOD CANYON SPRING HAS VENT FOR SPRINGCOLLECTION BOX

SS12 SPRING BOX LACKS RAISED ACCESS ENTRY — Max Pts: 5

Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified
WS002 COTTONWOOD CANY	09/14/05	9/14/2005

COULD NOT VERIFY THAT COTTONWOOD CANYON SPRING HAS PROPER CLEARANCEOF COLLECTION BOX ABOVE GROUND SURFACE

SS13 SPRING BOX IS NOT SECURE — Max Pts: 20

Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified
WS002 COTTONWOOD CANY	09/14/05	9/14/2005

COULD NOT VERIFY THAT COTTONWOOD CANYON SPRING COLLECTION BOXES AREADEQUATELY SECURED

SS14 SPRING BOX DRAIN/OVERFLOW LACKS PROPER FREEFALL — Max Pts: 5

Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified
WS002 COTTONWOOD CANY	09/14/05	9/14/2005

COTTONWOOD CANYON SPRING COULD NOT VERIFY PROPERLY SCREENED OVERFLOW WITH 12 INCHES FREE FALL

V007 STORAGE FACILITY VENT NOT PROPERLY SCREENED — Max Pts: 2

Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified
ST001 RESERVOIR 1	09/14/05	9/14/2005

250K TANK VENT MISSING #14 SCREEN

V009 STORAGE FACILITY ACCESS LACKS PROPER GASKET — Max Pts: 5

Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified
ST001 RESERVOIR 1	09/14/05	9/14/2005

250K TANK MISSING GASKET ON ACCESS COVER

Physical Facility, Administrative, & Source Protection Deficiencies from Site Visits

Code	Description	Facility	Date Determined	PWS Notified	Max Pts
V012	STORAGE FACILITY OVERFLOW PIPE IMPROPER SCREEN		10/08/02	10/8/2002	5
	THE\STORAGE TANK OVERFLOW NEEDS A SCREEN				
V029	STORAGE FACILITY IS NOT SECURE				
		ST001 RESERVOIR 1	09/14/05	9/14/2005	20
	250K STORAGE TANK HATCH IS MISSING A LOCK				

Total Deficiency Pts 150

TCR Rule Violations

Date Range Starts: 03/31/06

Determin Date	Complaince Period	Code	Violation Type	IPS Points Assessed
07/11/06	5/1/06 -5/31/06	23	MONITORING (TCR), ROUTINE MAJOR	35
			Total TCR Violation Pts:	35

Operator Certification Points

	Distribution	*Treatment*	
Level Required	SS		
Highest Certificate on Record			
Points	30	0	*Total Points* 30

Utah Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Drinking Water

Monitoring Schedule

Run Date: 4/20/2007

Division Staff

Division Director: Kenneth H. Bousfield (801) 536-4200

Compliance Section

The Compliance Section is responsible for promulgating corresponding State rules required by the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. Report program and compliance data to EPA, implement the Operator Certification Program and the Cross Connection Program. Provide outreach seminars on drinking water rules for water system managers and operators, Conduct sanitary surveys and provide technical assistance to water system managers. Track compliance of all public drinking water systems for monitoring, reporting and quality requirements. Coordinates with the State Health Laboratory on analytical and Certification issues.

Patti Fauver, Manager ....(801)536-4196
Rachael Cassady .....(801)536-4467
Kim Dyches .....(801)536-4202
Margaret Hand .....(801)536-4192
Dave Hansen .....(801)536-4203
Cheri Heath .....(801)536-0070
Janet Keller .....(801)536-0068
Don Lore .....(801)536-4204
Mike Moss .....(801)536-0089
John Oakeson .....(801)536-0057
Elden Olsen .....(801)536-4097
Brett Shakespear .....(801)536-4198

Engineering Section

The Engineering Section is responsible for reviewing drinking water project plans and specifications for compliance with State rules and sound engineering principles, inspect drinking water projects under construction for adherence to approvals given, inspect water treatment plants at least annually and offers financial assistance to publicly owned drinking water systems to enable them to construct system improvements.

Ken Wilde, Manager .....(801)536-4197
Mark Bertleson .....(801)536-0087
Bill Birkes .....(801)536-4201
Julie Cobleigh .....(801)536-4197
Michael Grange .....(801)536-0069
Bob Hart .....(801)536-0054
Mike Mortensen .....(801)536-0039
Steve Onysko .....(801)536-0096
Rich Peterson .....(801)536-4053
Mike Pfieffer .....(801)536-4150
Tim Pine .....(801)536-4205
Frank Roberts .....(801)536-0098
Karin Tatum .....(801)536-0099

Special Services Section

The Special Services Section is responsible for administering the Drinking Water Source Protection Program, providing technical assistance to water treatment plants, conducting special studies, and providing support services (budgeting, purchasing, contracting, grants administration, etc.) for the Division.

Kate Johnson, Manager ....(801)536-4206
Mark Jensen .....(801)536-4199
Jim Martin .....(801)536-4494
Eva Nieminski .....(801)536-4189

Division FAX Number ..... (801) 536-4211

Visit our website at: http://drinkingwater.utah.gov

Total Coliform Sample History

For the twelve months beginning 04/01/06

	Routine Samples			Repeat Samples			Investigative Samples		
	No Samp	TC Pos.	Fec Pos.	No Samp	TC Pos.	Fec Pos.	No Samp	TC Pos.	Fec Pos.
Apr	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
May	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jun	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jul	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aug	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sep	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oct	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nov	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dec	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jan	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feb	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mar	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0